

Monday

Dust... Spectrum charts the rise and fall of Biba, symbol of the Swinging Sixties. A three-part series... to dust The dead have more security than the living. Gillian Tindall reports



Aiming... Christopher Thomas looks at the Mondale bid for the Democratic nomination... high MODERN TIMES meets the people with shares in the high life... and higher In the first of a series in Career Horizons, Edward Fennell advises on higher education for those with disappointing A levels

The war... CND is not the only threat to Nato. Philip Towle explains... of the worlds Full reports on the closing day of the World Athletics Championships

Hospital watch on Gormley

Doctors at Charing Cross Hospital, London, should know today whether yesterday's operation on Lord Gormley, the former miners' union president, to remove an obstruction in a narrowed blood vessel in the neck, has succeeded.

Zia deadline

President Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan plans constitutional changes strengthening the role of the President and ending martial law after elections to be held by March 23, 1985

TV-am ahead

TV-am has overtaken the BBC, according to breakfast television audience figures for last week, which gave it 1.5m viewers to the BBC's 1.2m.

New tap stock

The Bank of England launched an \$800m tap stock against a background of firmer gilt prices and optimism over the US money supply. Sterling gained 35 points to \$1.4835 against the dollar

Israeli crisis

The Israeli Cabinet met army chiefs yesterday to discuss plans for sweeping defence cuts in a move to resolve the economic crisis in the country

16 die in Chile

Sixteen people were killed, 100 wounded and 700 arrested during the day of protest called by the Chilean opposition against President Pinochet's regime

Killer dies

Alexander Sinclair, the international drug smuggler sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of a gang colleague in the 'handless corpse' case, died in jail

No to dual-key

Chancellor Kohl has rejected suggestions of a West German veto right over the firing of US nuclear missiles, which are due to be sited in the country.

Test hero

Nick Cook, a last-minute selection, took four New Zealand wickets for 28 runs in the Third Test. Former England captain Mike Brearley is almost certain to come out of retirement to play for Middlesex today

War of words, page 5

Leader page, 7

Letters: On remand prisoners, from Ms J. Cove; NHS priorities, from Mr R. M. Nicholls; the Met Office, from Sir Henry Smith

Leading Articles: United States and Mexico; Union contributions to party funds

Features, page 6 Daisy Ashcroft's unpublished story; The reluctant private partner; Sorry, you'll hear that, again

Obituary, page 8 Lord Wigg, Professor F. J. Daniels

Home News 2-4; Diary 6; Overseas 4, 5; Law Report 18; Arts 8; Religion 8; Science 8; Business 10-15; Services 8; Chess 2; Sport 15-18; Church 8; TV & Radio 19; Court 8; Theatre, etc 19; Crossword 20; Weather 20

BL infiltrators' 'battle plan' nearly succeeded

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Infiltration "must be seen as a clear priority for the organization", it adds. Comrades are told what kind of job background they have to claim in order to be recruited, and that they have to be able to give an address in Oxford. If references were to be offered from outside Oxford, members would need "a cover story to explain why they are now in Oxford or seeking to move". Members reluctant to move from other parts of Britain are reminded that the Cowley jobs are well-paid.

The document calls for a large number of comrades to assemble on the day recruiting begins and to sign on as unemployed at the Oxford Job-Centre. If they were short of funds, branches would "have to allocate the necessary resources". Comrades already working at Cowley would be on hand to help prepare newcomers for recruitment interviews. Women comrades in particular are urged to turn up because BL was worried, the document says, about discriminatory recruitment allegations and was asking existing workers if women in their family wanted jobs.

An Oxford telephone number is provided, together with an address, 26 Bullingdon Road. There was no sign of the man believed to be the regional secretary of the Socialist League at the small terraced house in Bullingdon Road yesterday. A lodger said that he had decided to go away for the weekend visiting family members outside Oxfordshire.

Coach speed limit cuts proposed

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government is considering a reduction in the 70 mph motorway speed limit for coaches after several recent serious crashes, and has proposed that the speed limit for lorries on dual carriageways be increased from 40 mph to 50 mph.

Coach operators reacted sharply last night after Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said that in view of public concern about the coach limit she was prepared to consider evidence from interested organizations that it might be too high.

Mrs Chalker will decide in the autumn whether legislation is needed after receiving the results of a study being carried out by Department of Transport officials on coach speeds. Staff are conducting a monitoring exercise on motorways all over Britain, noting the speeds at which coaches are travelling and the lanes they are using.

The department has acted in response to representations from the public and MPs after the accidents, but it acknowledges that a reduction in the limit could have far-reaching consequences for coach companies, including re-timetabling on most routes.

The Bus and Coach Council, which represents 98 per cent of United Kingdom bus operators and two-thirds of the coach operators, in a strong response last night, said that barely 1 per cent of all motorway accidents involved coaches.

Mr Denis Quin, the director-general, said that not one of the recent accidents had been attributable to coaches speeding. He said: "Coaches limited to 60mph would be a nuisance but to restrict coaches to the near two lanes is likely to increase accidents rather than improve safety."

The congestion in those two lanes was already serious on many routes, some heavy goods vehicles were scheduled to average speeds as low as 35 to 45mph while few, if any, fully loaded lorries could maintain 60mph, he said.

Mr Robert Brook, chief executive of the state-owned National Bus Company, which runs the 1,500-coach National Express fleet, Britain's largest, welcomed the Government's proposals.

Continued on page 2, col 5

Continued on page 2, col 5

Thompson stays one jump ahead of the field



Daley Thompson (above) was able to profit from an error of judgment in the high jump by his most fancied opponent in the decathlon at the world athletics championships in Helsinki yesterday. The first day of the decathlon ended with five events completed and Thompson 120 points ahead of the field - six points better than his position at the end of the first day in Athens last year, when he set a world record in winning the event at the European Championships.

Jorgen Hingsen, who bettered Thompson's world record two months ago, decided not to attempt the high jump with the bar at 2.03 metres, but failed in his three attempts at 2.06 metres, which left Thompson with a 2.03 metres clearance and a 25-point advantage.

Colin Reitz won Britain's first individual medal of the championships, taking the bronze in the 3,000 metres steeplechase. He was in fourth place at the final barrier, but Marsh of the United States fell when taking it, letting Reitz in. "I'm not going to say I'm sorry," Reitz barriers are there to be jumped," Reitz said afterwards.

Report and results, page 15

TUC talks with Tebbit next week

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The TUC has quietly dropped its 18-month boycott of contacts with Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment, in a move expected to infuriate hard-Left critics of the Labour movement's "new mood of realism".

A full fortnight before the annual Trades Union Congress debates whether to have discussions with the Minister on labour law reform, union leaders will see Mr Tebbit on two successive days next week.

On the agenda for the first discussions, between the TUC and the Employment Secretary since January, 1982 are the operation of the Government's Youth Training Scheme and its proposals to repeal the nineteenth-century Truck Acts as a step towards "the cashless society".

The talks with Mr Tebbit next Thursday and Friday are regarded as a breakthrough by his advisers, who see these discussions as a step towards persuading union leaders to accept his plans for greater internal union democracy through the introduction of secret ballots before strikes and for elections to high office in the labour movement.

A much more guarded view is taken by the TUC where it is argued that the boycott until now related to Mr Tebbit's union law proposals and did not rule out contacts on issues where the unions feel they may have some influence on Government policy.

It is 18 months since the unions officially put in an appearance at Caxton House, the Westminster headquarters of the Employment Department, and the initiative for next week's meetings came from the TUC.

The Minister is likely to be unresponsive to the unions' proposal that the weekly allowance payable to young people on YTS schemes should be raised in line with inflation from £25 to £26.50.

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Micro mites make a computer killing

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

A college, a bank and a nuclear weapons laboratory have been raided by a team of young but knowledgeable home-computer buffs.

What they stole was information - not of it classified but presumably some of it very personal. Such was the alarm about national security that the FBI was brought in to find out how 12 people, aged 15 to 21, achieved the very thing portrayed in the film "War Games".

In that fictional story a teenager uses a home computer to break into the information data of a defence computer controlling nuclear weapons. In

The mystery surrounding the disappearance of Signor Licio Gelli from Geneva's Champ Dollon prison in the early hours of Wednesday has been cleared up - he left in the back of a van driven by a warder.

The same warder, named as Edouard Ceresa, is alleged to have unlocked his cell door during the night, led him downstairs into the courtyard and hid him under blankets in his private van.

As the officer on night duty in the block housing Signor Gelli's cell, he had earlier given more than one assurance to the prison security centre that the former banker and head of the banned Italian P2 lodge was still asleep in his bed - when, in fact, he was already concealed in the van.

Announcing the arrest of the warder yesterday, Mr Jean-Pierre Tremblay, the judge investigating the banker's escape, said that Signor Gelli's disappearance was discovered by the prison day shift shortly after 7 am.

Lawson set to face dole cut revolt

By Our Political Reporter

Treasury ministers still appear ready to face a confrontation with Conservative backbenchers over a possible cut in the real value of unemployment benefit.

Suggestions that the Government is unlikely to press forward with consideration of the issue because the savings involved would be trivial were denied by Treasury sources yesterday.

It was pointed out that in mooted the possibility of a cut the main concern of Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, had not been to make admittedly small savings. He had in mind the "disincentive" of a high rate of unemployment benefit, and the view that some people were making a deliberate calculation that they were better off on the dole.

Mr Lawson said last month that it was not possible to give a guarantee on any particular uprating of unemployment benefits.

He said: "There can be no doubt whatever that at the margin there are people, even in present circumstances, who take a rational decision that it is not worth their while taking a job at the sort of pay at which jobs would be on offer."

But Mrs Margaret Thatcher later carefully left open the possibility of a cut when she went out of her way in the Commons to emphasise that the pledge in the Tory manifesto to "price protect" pensioners and other linked long-term benefits did not apply to dole money.

The Treasury calculates that the savings from each 1 per cent cut in unemployment benefit would be worth only about £12m to £13m.

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Drug gang chief dies in jail

Alexander Sinclair, the international drug smuggler sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of a gang colleague the "handless corpse" case, died at Parkhurst Prison, Isle of Wight, yesterday. (Stewart Adger writes).

Sinclair, aged 39, is thought to have had a heart attack on his way to lunch. He died on the way to hospital.

A few weeks ago, Sinclair, a New Zealander, said to have earned £25m from selling cannabis and heroin, began proceedings at the European Court of Justice alleging a miscarriage of justice at his trial at Lancaster Crown Court in 1981. A royal commission in Australia on drug trafficking recommended his extradition to face five murder charges.

There were also reports that Sinclair was prepared to reveal information and the use of undercover money from drug dealers to buy arms for the Provisional IRA. A post mortem examination will be held on Tuesday.

Warning against French trips

Commonwealth citizens who are not British citizens were advised by the Government yesterday not to travel to France on excursion trips without a passport.

France has refused to continue the special trips for which a passport is not usually required. Urgent discussions have been taking place in Paris with some travellers, many of whom were turned back.

Reenactment of girl's last walk

Lothian and Borders police last night staged a reconstruction of the last known movements of Caroline Hogg, aged 5, who was abducted from outside her home near Edinburgh five weeks ago and murdered.

Her journey from her front door to a park, then along Strathello Promenade to the City amusement park was traced by Marion Beck, aged 40, the daughter of a policeman. Police returned several witnesses to the scene in the hope the reconstruction would jog their memories.

Hunt for clue in classics

Detectives listened to classical music yesterday in an attempt to find a clue to the disappearance of Mrs Diane Jones. Police removed more than 120 tape cassettes from the farmhouse in Coggeshall, Essex, where Mrs Jones lived with her husband, Robert.

Officers believe a message could be concealed on the tapes. Supt Michael Ainsley said it is possible to put a piece of tape over a pre-recorded message and then record over it.

Helicopter firm dismisses pilots

Bristow, Europe's largest helicopter concern, is to make 15 of its 500 pilots redundant. The company blames unfair subsidized competition from a state-owned British Airways helicopter. Fifty-three jobs, mainly in Aberdeen, will go by the end of the year.

rish remand

A man arrested during the investigation into the kidnaping of Mr William Somerville, a Dublin solicitor, was remanded on bail until September 9 at Bray District Court in Co. Wicklow. Eugene Prunty, aged 43, was charged with demanding money with menaces.

Reagan must halt rise in US interest rates, Owen says

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Dr David Owen last night called on the Prime Minister to warn President Reagan that a further increase in American interest rates could threaten a world economic crisis.

The Social Democratic Party leader said that such was heard from the Government about the value of friendly relations with the United States, but true friendship involved speaking openly, honestly and critically.

Now was such a time, for Britain must not stand back while the United States pursued "narrow-minded financial isolationism of the worst kind".

Dr Owen said that unless there was coordinated action by world finance ministers, next week could see a further damaging rise in interest rates.

He proposed an urgent meeting between the United States, West German, Japanese, French and British finance ministers who were committed by the Williamsburg summit meeting to intervene together on currencies when faced by disorderly conditions in the world financial markets.

"If they fail to take coordinated action we are on course for another spiralling yet self-defeating twist upwards in world interest rates. If this happens then any chance of even a modest European recovery will be stillborn", he said.

Dr Owen said that there were formidable pressures demanding that the United States take action to curb its mounting trade deficit.

He said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should demand at the least a public statement from his American counterpart that the Federal Reserve prime rate would not rise any further than the 11 per cent announced last Monday and that the US Administration would cooperate fully in an attempt at coordinated action to steady the Deutschmark, yen and pound against the dollar.

The Americans, he added, should be urged to take fiscal action to reduce their budgetary deficit.

The Federal Reserve had acted only half-heartedly to try to lower the value of the dollar and with the rapid rate of rise in unemployment in Germany, ministers there were concerned about the consequences if they were forced to raise interest rates to defend their currency.

Britain was "piggy in the middle," hit both ways as the pound fell against the dollar yet rose against the Deutschmark.

Dr Owen went on: "It is time Mrs Thatcher reminded President Reagan of what he said at the North Atlantic Council meeting in Bonn on June 10, 1982: 'If we have values worth defending against external threats - and we do - then it would be irresponsible and ultimately tragic if we fail to protect them against a crisis of confidence within our own ranks.'"

"Britain should be telling the US that they are provoking just such a crisis of confidence and threatening the world economy with high interest rates, bringing about an abortive recovery and threatening an economic crisis," Dr Owen said.

Business News, page 11



The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher (left) being met at Zurich airport yesterday at the start of their Swiss holiday by their hostess, Lady Glover (right).

Thatcher 'should have used NHS'

Mrs Margaret Thatcher was criticized by the Royal College of Nursing yesterday for choosing private medicine for her recent eye operation.

The operation could easily have been performed in a National Health Service hospital, the college's official newspaper *Nursing Standard*, said.

The Prime Minister's decision showed a lack of faith which damaged further an already battered service, it said. "Mrs Thatcher could have done much for the morale of the NHS, what's left of it, by showing that it is good enough for her, as it is good enough for everyone else."

The service is not only for long-stay geriatric care or for the mentally ill or handicapped, the journal said. "It has displayed time and time again that for sophisticated immediate emergency work, it is par excellence."

"Its skills range from heart transplantation to putting somebody's arm back on. Mrs Thatcher's operation was well within its capabilities."

The college, the nurses' professional body, said that it was no enemy of private medicine, but was deeply committed to the NHS.

"It would, have done much to redress the balance and would have been seen as a convincing gesture of faith in the NHS if the Prime Minister had decided to entrust herself to it on this occasion."

Doctor says cuts bar children

Children with serious brain, heart and kidney conditions are being turned away from a top teaching hospital as a result of government spending cuts, a consultant paediatrician said yesterday.

Dr George Haycock said emergency child admissions had been stopped at Guy's Hospital, London, because there was not enough money to pay nurses.

Children are normally referred to Guy's from all over the South-east for specialist investigations and intensive care.

"But for the last couple of weeks we have been forced to say we cannot admit these children because we cannot nurse them", Dr Haycock said. "This does not mean they are turned away to die. They are sent to another hospital unit, but it is the unit of second choice."

Dr Haycock said that if these other hospitals had to contend with an increased load they would also feel the strain.

He said extra funds should be given to Guy's by the South-east Thames Regional Health Authority because the hospital treated many patients from outside the immediate health district.

Dr Haycock said: "The money provided for this health district has been reduced as part of the Chancellor's spending cuts."

"That means that out of a smaller total sum of money the district have got to fund the same regional services that they did before - which is a nonsense."

"The children's department is an expensive unit and there is no doubt that we have been overspending because of the kind of work we do. In the past the district has been able to shuffle funds around for us to cope, but now they are no longer able to do so."

The child health department at King's College Hospital, London has opened a £100,000 appeal to improve facilities for premature babies.

Dr Harold Gamsu, a paediatrician, said: "There is unfortunately a general shortage of available places to accommodate these babies in London. Our unit is a very busy one, and although we try to admit babies whenever we can, this is not always possible."

All patients referred to Whipp's Cross Hospital, east London, will be accepted at least for the next six weeks (Our Social Services Correspondent writes).

The Waltham Forest District Health Authority last night confirmed its chairman's action in temporarily suspending the ruling under which patients outside the hospital's self-improved catchment area were sent back to their doctors unless they needed emergency treatment.

Suspension of the policy will remain temporary until the authority meets again on September 26 to discuss economics.

Noraid man fined for rioting in Belfast

From Richard Ford Belfast

A young American from the Noraid delegation to Ulster was fined £100 and threatened with deportation yesterday after being found guilty of riotous behaviour in west Belfast.

The magistrate, Mr Basil McIvor, told Stephen Lich, aged 22, a stock manager, from Indianapolis, who denied the charge, that he had abused his freedom to come to Northern Ireland by taking part in disorders.

He had encouraged a lot of misguided youngsters to disturb the police and destroy property in their own community which not only endangered lives and liberty but the fabric of their own community, Mr McIvor said.

"Your presence and participation in this riot as a citizen of the United States may also on this occasion have had a specific, perhaps considerable influence on an already sensitized section of the community, leading youngsters to believe that international opinion or a substantial part of international opinion is behind their violent and criminal activities", the magistrate said.

He added: "I think you are misguided and I think the court is expressing the wishes of the vast majority of men, women and youngsters from the community who hope for peace and who long for better opportunities for employment in their own homeland."

"You will leave here at the earliest possible moment and if you do not voluntarily leave here I have the power to recommend that you be deported and that you do not come back", said Mr McIvor.



Stephen Lich: Told to return to US.

Lich was arrested for throwing missiles at a Royal Ulster Constabulary patrol during disturbances marking the twelfth anniversary of the introduction of internment.

He had been identified by his green sweater in a crowd involved in rioting at Lower Clonard Street, off the Falls Road.

Lich claimed that he was merely standing on a street corner at 4.15 am last Tuesday watching bonfires and people making a noise with dustbin lids.

Gangs of youths went on the rampage in Belfast yesterday, hijacking and destroying vehicles. (The Press Association reports).

A van, a lorry and bus were seized and set on fire at the corner of Whitlock Road and Springfield Road in west Belfast, where Thomas Reilly died earlier this week. A soldier has appeared in court charged with his murder.

Tebbit intervenes in snack bar pay rise

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The Government is intervening to prevent implementation of a wage rise above the rate of inflation to low-paid snack bar workers. Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, has told the wages council covering small restaurants that it should not go ahead with a 6 per cent pay increase for 120,000 chefs and waitresses.

The Unlicensed Places of Refreshments wages Council has been informed that increases of up to £4 a week could harm businesses and jobs "at a time when the real need is for the level of pay settlements to decline and encourage the creation of new ones".

Mr Tebbit said: "I strongly urge the council to take serious account of representations on this point. Confirmation of these proposals would be very damaging and I cannot see how the council could justify such an award."

The council meets next Wednesday to decide whether to implement the award, covering about 20,000 establishments in Britain. Under it, the rate for a chef would rise from £66.95 a week to £70.97, while for other restaurant workers it would go up from £59.90 to £63.47.

Four in chess lead after fourth round

From Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent, Southampton

At the end of the round 4 in the Grievous Grant British Chess Championships in Southampton four players, Hadden, Johnson, Mestel and Thipsy were leading with three and a half points each, closely followed by Barua, Botterill, Bradbury, Kosten, Lawton J, Littlewood, Ravikumar, Speelman, and W. Watson with three points.

The most important game of the round was between the English grandmaster Jonathan Mestel and the international master Mark Hebden. Mestel looked to be winning for most of the time but eventually Hebden's stubborn defence was rewarded with a draw in 50 moves.

The Australian master Johnson beat Horner with a strong and enduring attack and the

Killed by drink

Dr Arthur Davies the Southwark Coroner, yesterday recorded a verdict of death by chronic alcoholism on Mr John Clifford, aged 47, of Manor Grove, Peckham, south London, who drank 24 pints of cider a day.

Liverpool City Council has rejected about £350,000 of EEC aid for four job creation schemes.

The Labour council leaders, who have passed a £300m regeneration scheme for the city, which has 19 per cent unemployment, say they would rather use their money on their own projects than contribute to the four schemes.

The schemes would have cost about £700,000 but the EEC would have paid half the bill. Central government would have provided three-quarters of the balance.

Organizers of the schemes had applied for help from the European Social Fund, and were told the money was available if the council agreed.

But at a special meeting of the city's joint economic development, housing and building committees, councillors refused.

The four blocked schemes are: the Speke Together Project, which, at a cost of £280,000, would provide training for at least 126 young people and jobs for 21 staff; Mencap, which provides a shopping delivery service for the household, employing 10 mentally handicapped people and three staff for £71,000; a Toxteth group employing 16 trainees and six staff for £165,000 to build an engine for use in the third world; and Greenbank - retaining physically handicapped people with the help of seven staff at a cost of £192,000.

Last year Merseyside was allocated 45 per cent of all the money coming to Britain from the European Social Fund.

Miss Gloria Hooper, the city's Conservative MEP, said she was "staggered and disgusted" by the council's decision.

"Just because the four schemes do not fit in with their own plans they are refusing to back them. This city needs as much help as it can get to provide more jobs."

"I have worked with one of the scheme organizers for two years to get the EEC to accept their application and now we are back to square one."



New recruit: Mr John Redwood, a merchant banker and keen advocate of privatization, who yesterday became the latest expert to be nominated to Mrs Thatcher's Downing Street policy unit.

Mr Redwood, aged 32, will join the unit on September 1 from N. M. Rothschild.

City refuses EEC job creation aid

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Coach speed limit cut

The minister added that work by the British Standards Institution to develop a standard for reducing spray from heavy lorries was nearly complete and draft regulations would be sent out in the autumn.

Her announcement was welcomed by the Freight Transport Association.

Proposed changes in speed limits

	Current	Proposed
	mph	km/h
MOTORWAYS		
Goods vehicles	40	64
(a) below 1250 kg unladen weight	70	112
(b) articulated	70	112
(c) with trailer trailer	70	112
(d) between 1250 kg-2050 kg unladen	70	112
(e) articulated	70	112
(f) with trailer trailer	70	112
(g) over 2050 kg unladen weight	60	96
ROADS AND COACHES		
Goods vehicles	40	64
(a) articulated	40	64
(b) between 1250 kg-2050 kg unladen	40	64
(c) articulated	40	64
(d) with trailer trailer	40	64
(e) over 2050 kg unladen weight	30	48
(f) with trailer trailer	30	48
PRIVATE CARS		
Goods vehicles	40	64
(a) articulated	40	64
(b) between 1250 kg-2050 kg unladen	40	64
(c) articulated	40	64
(d) with trailer trailer	40	64
(e) over 2050 kg unladen weight	30	48
(f) with trailer trailer	30	48
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(d) with trailer trailer	40	64
(e) over 2050 kg unladen weight	30	48
(f) with trailer trailer	30	48

Continued from page 1

intention to consider evidence. But a spokesman said that the company was convinced that the evidence would show that coaches were safe at 70mph.

Mrs Chalker also yesterday circulated draft regulations proposing amendments to speed limits for lorries and other vehicles on dual carriageways, setting new limits at a point midway between the present limit for ordinary roads and for motorways.

The Department of Transport is holding consultations on the changes which will be subject to approval by Parliament.

The maximum for lorries on dual carriageways would be 50mph, although 40mph would still be the limit on all other non-motorway roads.

Mrs Chalker said that making sensible use of the dual carriageway network would enable hauliers to get better value from their vehicles. The 40mph limit on purpose built carriageways had long been ignored and its maintenance could cause dangers to other road users; the new limit would make for more effective enforcement of speed limits.



Mrs Chalker: Prepared to consider evidence

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IS THERE LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL?

For some children the future still looks dim. But to many The Save the Children Fund has already given new hope.

Surveys taken in 1967 in Southern Africa revealed that nine out of ten children were undernourished. The Save the Children Fund embarked on a vast feeding programme and now a quarter of a million children are provided with a free meal at school every day.

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Name _____

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مكتبات الأصيل

Winter package holidays price war signalled by reprinted brochures

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A new package holiday price war was signalled yesterday as Thomson Holidays and Birmingham-based Horizon both brought out reprinted brochures of winter sun holidays abroad, with prices cut by between 7 and 8 per cent on average.

The price war could also extend to skiing holidays. Inghams, the Hotelplan subsidiary which is among the top three skiing specialists, has cut prices of a quarter of its holidays by up to 30 per cent.

Other tour operators with winter sun programmes which appeal more on keener pricing policies than the quality image underpinning Thomson and Horizon made no immediate response yesterday to the two market leaders.

At Intersun, one of the top three operators, it was argued that its existing prices would still remain competitive. But companies like Intasun could find themselves under increased pressure, possibly forcing them into making at least selective

special offers a little later in the booking season.

This summer Thomson reprinted its brochures with lower prices and seized considerable extra sales, largely at the expense of Horizon. Now Horizon has adopted Thomson's strategy of lower prices to gain from a higher volume of sales. It seems likely that Thomson and Horizon together will snatch sales from companies like Intasun.

Horizon is cutting prices of 160,000 winter sun holidays which is 80 per cent of the total it has on offer.

The strength of sterling against the tourist currencies had allowed the cuts to be made, Horizon said. With the big fall of the peseta against sterling, the best bargains are in Spanish resorts, with an average 10 per cent, the company said. But holidays are also cheaper in Italy, Portugal, Morocco and Greece.

One 14-night holiday in the Canaries is being cut by £54,

from the old brochure price of £513. A 134 Spanish holiday is reduced by £14. Thomson has cut prices on 330,000 holidays, three quarters of those it has on offer. There is an average reduction of £15.

Both Thomson and Horizon are passing on the benefit of the lower brochure prices to anybody who has already booked a holiday.

The skiing holidays move by Inghams is aimed at sharpening Inghams's pricing in resorts and hotels where it is competing against other key operators which have pitched their prices lower. The biggest cut, of a quarter, is £188 off a 14-night holiday by air in Austria's Mayrhofen resort, bringing the cost in February to £337.

The initial reaction of other ski-tour operators was that Inghams was largely moving in line with market prices. But many Inghams prices are claimed to undercut the opposition - so discounting could spread.

Six firemen overcome by fumes

Six firemen were overcome by smoke and fumes while fighting a big fire at a chemical warehouse in Macclesfield, Cheshire, yesterday.

It took more than seventy firemen over three hours to bring the fire at the J and C International building in Fence Avenue under control, and houses near by had to be evacuated because of toxic fumes from burning PVC granules.

The alarm was raised at 5 am. At one stage a third of the warehouse, measuring 300 by 100 metres, was in flames.

The six firemen who were overcome had hospital treatment. Three later returned to Macclesfield fire station, but will go back to hospital for X-rays.

Greenham cases not dysentery

Two women from the Greenham Common peace camp admitted to hospital with suspected dysentery were suffering from gastro-enteritis, Basingstoke District General Hospital said yesterday. One has already been discharged.

Villagers win silo fight

Villagers in the Bourne Valley have won their fight to stop the Southern Counties Agricultural Trading Society building 19 grain storage silos on land at Newton Tony in the heart of the valley, near Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Salisbury district council refused permission and at a public inquiry last June residents turned up in force to oppose it. The Department of the Environment has now dismissed the society's appeal.

Irish approval for local radio

More than thirty local commercial radio stations are to be established in the Irish Republic next year under an authority appointed by the Dublin Government, putting an end to RTE's monopoly of state-backed broadcasting.

Dozens of "pirate" stations which have sprung up over the past few years have generally been overlooked by the authorities pending legislation to replace them with legal local stations.

Police rush to toy gun game

A police car sped to a Sheffield polytechnic site and an officer jumped out yelling to three boys aged 13: "Drop your guns." Then the police realized the boys were enjoying a holiday "shootout" with toy guns.

Judge visits feuding families' battlefield

From Our Correspondent, York

A judge moved his court yesterday to a field near a village where two families have feuded for four years.

Judge Baker, QC, has presided over three country court cases involving disputes between Mr Brian Brook, a farmer, and Mr Ron Mallinson, a smallholder.

Yesterday he decided to view the "battlefield" on the edge of Melbourn, North Humberdale.

During almost 20 hours of cases Mr Mallinson and his wife, Margaret, have claimed that their life in their cottage has been turned into a "living hell" by the Brooks, who live 300 yards away.

handicapped daughter to fall from her pony, and intimidated them by carrying tape recorders and cameras to provoke them into losing their tempers, trespassing on their property and frightening their children.

Yesterday the Mallinsons were back in court seeking, for the second time, an order to have the Brooks jailed for breaking an injunction banning them from molesting the Mallinsons.

Mr Mallinson, aged 49, a self-employed demolition contractor, told Judge Baker the latest incident in the long battle was just two days earlier. Mr Brook, he said, demolished one of his fences with his combine harvester.

Mr Brook claimed Mr Mallinson deliberately tore it down himself to "frame" him.

Judge Baker then ordered all parties involved to travel the 13 miles from York to Melbourn so that he could see the whole scene for himself.

Judge Baker has already said in court that he is "frankly baffled" by the bickering.

The case is expected to end on Monday.

Prisoners join festival

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Four prisoners from Mountjoy Jail, Dublin, are to appear on stage at the Focis Theatre by a professional actress to present *Fancy Footwork*, a 40-minute lunchtime play about boxing, written by Miriam Gallagher. She said that it would feature a stylized fight as a lot of the prisoners taking part in drama workshops were good at the sport.

Although the company declined last night to disclose its marketing plans, acesulfame K is seen as a potential replacement for saccharin.

Its American rival Replac already sells aspartame in several countries. The company plans to enter the British market with the sweetener from September 6, in the form of small tablet packets called Canderel and as a sugar substitute for soft drinks called NutraSweet.

Tories back GLC over green belt

By a Staff Reporter

The Government's proposals for new guidelines on development within London's green belt have run into new criticism, this time from Conservatives on the Greater London Council.

While the Government will not have been surprised by the attack on its plans from the Labour-controlled administration at the GLC, its announcement appears to have almost equally alarmed the Conservative opposition, whose planning spokesman, Mrs Joan Wikes, urged extreme vigilance to protect the future of the green belt.

It was recognized that there might be small pockets of land which could be released for housing, but "the essential objective must be to protect London from this encroachment", she said.

"The green belt is paramount to London's environmental well-being."



Scotland Yard artist's impression (above) yesterday of a man wanted in connection with the rape and murder of a girl a year ago, Yvonnea Yianni, aged 17, was found by her family on August 13 last year strangled at their home in Belsize Park, north west London. The man, who followed the girl home a month before the murder, was in his early twenties.



Bird's eye view: A newly-hatched ostrich chick staying close to its mother at the Cotswold Wildlife Park in Burford, Oxfordshire. When more than 20 eggs were laid in the early summer it was feared that they would not hatch because the adult ostriches showed no interest in incubating them. But, as they do in the wild, the birds left the eggs exposed to the sun for long periods and let the British heatwave do the job. Four chicks have hatched so far. (Photographs: Chris Harris).

New sweeteners to go on sale

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

Six new substitutes for sugar will be permitted in Britain from September 6. Two of them are intensely sweet chemicals intended to replace saccharin, the only artificial sweetener permitted at present.

The Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday that final regulations approving the six sweeteners would be tabled officially on Tuesday and would take effect three weeks later. Approval has been expected for several months, after a recommendation by the Government's Food Additives and Contaminants Committee.

The two intense sweeteners, aspartame and acesulfame K, will receive most public attention as their manufacturers fight for the large market now monopolized by saccharin.

Animal experiments have suggested that saccharin may be carcinogenic, although it has not been proved to cause cancer in humans and it will continue to be permitted in Britain.

Britain will be the first country in the world to permit acesulfame K, a zero-calorie sweetener 130 times more intense than table sugar, which Hoechst developed in West Germany.

Although the company declined last night to disclose its marketing plans, acesulfame K is seen as a potential replacement for saccharin.

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Silver raid inquiry short of corruption evidence

By Stewart Teadler, Crime Reporter

A big Scotland Yard investigation into serious allegations of police corruption linked to a £1.4m silver bullion robbery in 1980 could end in the next few months without any prosecutions.

Sir Thomas Hetherington, the Director of Public Prosecution, was recently handed a new and comprehensive report. It is understood to show that after two years investigation is still short of sufficient evidence for charges to be brought.

The DPP will have to consider whether fresh investigations should be carried out or whether the inquiry should end, leaving Scotland Yard to consider the possibility of internal disciplinary charges.

The problem for the investigators, a small team led by Deputy Assistant Commissioner Ronald Stevenson and Det Chief Supt Alan Stage,

has been the lack of witnesses coming forward to confirm allegations surrounding missing bars of silver worth £120,000 and a record reward of £180,000 which was paid out.

The allegations arose after 10 tons of bullion were stolen from a lorry on the A13 Barking Essex, in March 1980. Two months later officers from the Yard's robbery squad recovered 309 of the missing bars from a garage.

The DPP's decision is not expected for some time but the investigating team is understood to have already been reduced. Mr Stevenson retires at the end of this month after staying on beyond his original time of retirement to oversee the inquiry.

A second team of detectives is understood to be continuing on other allegations parallel to the corruption inquiry.

BR office 'removed' by tenant

A High Court judge was told yesterday that British Rail became the victim of a "sting" when most of a 42,000 sq ft former parcels office which it leased out in Sunderland vanished and some of it reappeared on a farm 60 miles away.

The building, which would cost £300,000 to reinstate, had been leased from BR for £6,000 a year.

Then, in what Mr Justice Faussoer described as "an amazing story", most of the building was dismantled and sold.

Part of it turned up, re-erected, on a farm 60 miles away at Robin Hood's Bay, North Yorkshire, Mr Timothy Jennings, counsel for BR said.

He said that the premises, in Robinson Terrace, Hendon, Sunderland, were leased from British Rail in May by Mr Kenneth Burrell, of Ford Oval, Sunderland.

The judge, who had been shown "before and after" photographs of the site, granted BR a temporary injunction banning any more demolition work or removal of materials from the site pending a further court hearing.

Mr Burrell was not present, nor was he represented in court.

Mr Chris Robertson, who has been on the shoot every August 12 for the past 16 years, said the right was jealously defended. All it cost them was a £6 game licence for an entire season, while on the big estates one day could cost up to £700. "It's what I call an unique bargain."

The right had been given by a patrician mill owner and dated back beyond the days when loom workers stalked the moor wearing dogs and working men fought off a group of high-handed Halifax gentry with pick-axe handles to keep them off the moor. Strangers and non-freeholders were never welcome.

They have little in common with the hot polo on those other private moors where the ground is protected and patrolled and the sportsmen wear billowing plus fours. At Ickonshaw there are no

The Glorious Twelfth Order returns in the great grouse race

By Stephen Goodwin

The social pecking order was reestablished yesterday when those who can afford £19.50 for lunch were able to eat fresh shot grouse in London's Park Lane, while lorry drivers who had hoped to sample haute cuisine at a transport cafe on the A1 had to do without.

Mrs "Tubby" Clark of the Caft Blue near Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, believes she was the first to serve grouse in the South last year, upstaging the West End hotels. Yesterday was not so glorious; by lunchtime she had bagged a good 12 brace of ladies and gentlemen from the press, but not a grouse was to be had.

"It's such a shame", she said. However drivers who had hoped to have grouse, chips, baked beans and bread and butter followed by pudding and a mug of tea for £1.50, hardly turned their noses up at Mrs Clark's substitute, fresh Scotch salmon at the same price.

The regrettable absence of the Red Grouse was explained by Mr Edwin Cheeseman, manager of the Park Hotel in Bedford, who planned the operation. "They just have not shot anything", he said of the guns he was depending on, combing moors south of Edinburgh.

Mrs Clark never really stood a chance against the motor-cycles, helicopters, light aircraft and, in one case, Aston Martin's turbo-charged Tickford Capri used to rush the birds from Scotland to the West End. Mrs Clark's two and a half brace travelled part of their journey by British Rail and arrived in time to be served for tea.

It was the first public appearance of Aston Martin's new 145mph car, which carried

Miss Scotland, Isobel McPheeters, from Heathrow to the Grosvenor Hotel, bird in hand.

Late breakfasters at the Inn on the Park were able to sample grouse shot at dawn on Lord Cawdor's estate near Nairn. Ten guns, led by Lord Cawdor, set off across the heather shortly after 5 am and caught six and a half brace in just under an hour.

Although the bag was not as big as the organizers had hoped, Lord Cawdor said he was satisfied and there was enough to provide breakfast at Nairn's Golf View Hotel. The rest were flown south from Inverness by Dan Air, with passengers enjoying a taste of grouse at 33,000 ft.

The race between three big hotel groups, Trust House Forte, Thistle Hotels and Stakis Hotels ended in a close finish.

The first grouse reached Trust House Forte's Cumberland Hotel, Marble Arch, at 8.32 am, only 11 minutes before the Selfridge Thistle Hotel received its birds. The Stakis team had missed their plane at Inverness and arrived at the St Emrys Hotel, Caxton Street, at 9.35 am.

The winners collected three cases of whisky from Long John International but donated the equivalent value, about £300, to the Rigmore Hospital, where it will go towards a diagnostic scanner.

Glorious Twelfth gimmickry seems to know no bounds. Miss Jennie Lee, aged 21, a legal secretary, leapt 3,000ft from a light aircraft with two brace of grouse tucked inside her flying suit for customers of Ve Old Bull Inn, Barnby Moor, near Retford, Nottinghamshire.

Village guns crack lordly image

From Ronald Faux, Ickonshaw

The men from the Yorkshire village of Ickonshaw were out at dawn yesterday waiting for the first quack to mark the start of their Glorious Twelfth.

It was not a gentrified shoot in the normal tradition. The local game owner shattering the silence at 4.50 am by firing a gun. Near him in the heather was the coalman, the electrician, a mechanic and a weaver. There were council workers and a joiner. All of them exercising an ancient right to shoot on the 999 acres of moorland as freeholders of Ickonshaw.

beaters to drive the birds into target clusters.

The lads hide in the hollows of the moor, they carry such names as "Billy Hill's 'Ole" and "Standing 'Ole", waiting for the first grumbling croak of the cock grouse and the answering quacks of the hens before firing. After the shooting starts it is up to any freeholder to work the moor with his dog.

Birds beaten up from two neighbouring estates sometimes cross the Ickonshaw boundary and wish they hadn't. "Mind you, they get quite a few of ours, so it's fit for 'em."

Mr Chris Robertson, who has been on the shoot every August 12 for the past 16 years, said the right was jealously defended. All it cost them was a £6 game licence for an entire season, while on the big estates one day could cost up to £700. "It's what I call an unique bargain."

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The men have their own cunning skills at imitating birds. People remember John Willie Teal who never missed a day on the moor between August 12 and December 10. He could quack like a hen so that neither man nor bird could tell the difference. One veteran recalled: "The old cock birds would listen to him and all but perch on the end of his gun. He was a superb shot but could hardly write his name."

Mr Robertson summed up the day's success: "We did very well, a lot better than some moors where the weather and disease have ruined the shooting this year. I got a brace and a half which will do me nicely. The important thing was to exercise the right for the sake of Ickonshaw folk to come."

Bolton Abbey shoot, photograph, page 8

Bludgeon bomb victims, doctor advises

A doctor is recommending that victims of a nuclear attack should be put out of their misery with a crack on the head.

"As no drugs will have been stockpiled for the population at large, it would appear that the best thing that can be done for them is to hit them over the head with a large stone. I am handing out the leaflets to my patients, provided I am satisfied they will not become mentally disturbed by them."

Dr Barney Williams gives the advice in a 10-point survival plan which he has been handing to his patients in Chippenham, Wiltshire.

Dr Williams said: "When a nuclear attack takes place there will be large numbers of people suffering from burns, compound fractures, crush injuries and radiation sickness, who will be in a lot of pain, very shocked and very ill."

the wife of a senior RAF officer and he came in specially to say, "You are so right, mate."

Dr Williams said he was not a member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament or any similar organization. He had produced the leaflet in response to a Home Office request to doctors to draw up plans for the aftermath of a nuclear attack.

Another of his suggestions is that those about to die should not do so where they might pollute water supplies or cause disease.

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NHS 'could save extra £75m' by improvements in audit systems

By Nicholas Timmins

Health authorities should be able to double their present target of 0.5 per cent efficiency savings - the equivalent this year of about £75m - the Government has been told.

The improvements would come from a drastic overhaul of the National Health Service's audit procedures, with the creation of "value for money" units, that should produce year over year savings of 1 per cent.

That could be achieved provided sufficient management effort is invested in producing the savings, and provided that the money saved is largely available locally to improve services, a report from the Department of Health/NHS audit working group has concluded.

The report, from a team of NHS treasurers, auditors, and administrators under the chairmanship of Mr Patrick Salmon, chairman of the South West Surrey Health Authority, says: "We believed the Secretary of State is right in his assertion that there is no room for improvement in efficiency in the NHS without adverse effects on services to patients."

The policy of improving the "Cinderella" services of mental handicap and illness and care for the elderly must, with the level of funding allowed for growth, compel authorities to

reallocate funds within their present cash limits.

"Such reallocations are made much less painful if they can be funded by internal savings arising from improved cost effectiveness and value for money. There is every incentive now to invest in releasing resources from within the health service."

The report, which is being issued to health authorities for consultation, recommends that a "value for money" unit should be set up within the Department of Health and Social Security, responsible to the permanent secretary.

Each region and district should set up similar units with targets set for annual savings.

Apart from making savings, the report says that the health service's internal audit needs to be improved for its own efficiency and security.

The great shortage of expertise in computer audit had meant that where new computer systems were developed, adequate controls were not always built in at the right stage. "This situation must present a serious potential financial risk of considerable proportions and must be tackled urgently."

Report of the DHSS/NHS Audit Working Group. (DHSS (Leaflets), PO Box 21, Stanmore, Middlesex, HA7 1AY, £3.80).

Going private, page 6

Computer aid cuts waste from rubbish

By Bill Johanson, Electronics Correspondent

Local authorities in Australia, the United States and Sweden may soon be using a British designed microcomputer system which predicts the cheapest way to run refuse collections.

LAMSAC (Local Authorities Management Services Committee) has been sold in some form to 200 local authorities in Britain. It can cut costs by up to 30 per cent.

Refuse collection is highly labour intensive; manpower accounts for over 60 per cent of the annual cost of £500m. The new system, which has been developed from one used on a

larger computer, is called Refuse Operation Systems Simulation (ROSS) and can be run on a Commodore Pet or an ICL DRS microcomputer.

LAMSAC has high hopes where it intends to exhibit in September at a municipal conference in Detroit. The computer system is being used by three municipalities in New Jersey. The British computer package will be sold through a US agent.

Australian local authority representatives were in London two weeks ago to look at the system and the Swedes two months before them.

Young jobless likely to fill Forces places

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

About 2,600 unemployed school leavers have shown interest in joining the armed forces for a year under the Armed Services Youth Training Scheme.

Recruiting began on August 4, and in just a week the Royal Navy had received 575 inquiries, the Royal Air Force 509, and the Army an estimated 1,500. The Navy is initially offering 350 places, the RAF 310 and the Army 1,250.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that all three Services regarded the figures as encouraging, and felt they would be able to fill the available places.

The scheme is open to unemployed young people aged 16 and 17. They will begin training between early September and early October.

Welsh language activists defaced signs

Members of the Welsh Language Society were removed from Newton magistrates' court in Powys by police yesterday as they protested against fines imposed for obscuring English-language road signs with paint.

Before the court were three Aberystwyth University students: Lydia Margaret Griffiths, aged 18, of Pwllglas, Penegoes, Machynlleth; Tonwen Davies, aged 20, of Llan Coch, Talgarth, Ardfynydd; and Helela Elizabeth Prosser, aged 20, of Parklands Crescent, Tonypre, Mid Glamorgan.

They were charged with criminal damage and carrying materials with intent to damage property. They refused to plead and were each fined £75 for criminal damage and £25 for carrying materials to cause damage.

International marine fraud Net closing in on criminals

By Michael Bailly, Transport Editor

The net is closing in on the international criminals who made fortunes in the late 1970s from marine fraud. That is the confident view of the International Maritime Bureau, which was set up in 1979 after he scuttling of the oil tanker 'Salem'.

Mr Eric Ellen, the director of the bureau, said yesterday that he scuttling for insurance purposes and diverting ships to sell the cargo illegally at a different port had all but ceased.

Incidents of arson, documentary frauds, and selling goods that do not exist, although still common, have decreased.

Mr Ellen, aged 52, the former head of the Port of London Police, who has an office in London docks, said that although no one knew the size of the international marine fraud, there was clear evidence of a decline. "There has been an across-the-board reduction in the past few months. Scuttling, fraudulent charter and documentary crimes have all decreased."

It was the bureau which alerted the police about the arrival in British ports this week of \$25m of Taiwanese toys and electrical goods that had been bought by a Taiwanese citizen in the strength of worthless cheques.

The bureau has continued to build up its international contracts, dossier on suspects and the range of its communications and controls. Suspect ships are now required to report their position daily to prevent any disappearances.

However, Mr Ellen attributes



subsequent scuttling off Dakar to claim insurance on the ship and non-existent cargo was, said Mr Ellen, "an affront to shipping. It changed everything."

That was the stimulus needed to set up the International Maritime Bureau. Sir John Cuckney, chairman of Thomas Cook Group and Brooks Bond Group, was appointed as chairman.

Its 14 investigators have a dangerous job because of the large sums of money involved. Although no one has been harmed, Miss Kuo Shiao-Lin, aged 25, from Taiwan, was taken off her last case after the bureau's clients received death threats against her.

International shipping, with its reliance on trust and attenuated relationships and documentation, has always been vulnerable to fraud.

Mr Ellen blamed the explosion of crime in the 1970s on the spread of affluence and international trade to the Middle and Far East and Africa, areas unsophisticated in trade, and the breakdown of "the system", originating primarily in the City of London, under which international trade was conducted.

"International trade had always been a case of 'my word is my bond'. But when you get people coming in whose word is not their bond it doesn't work."

Although the bureau handled 44 cases in the first half of this year, compared with 78 for the whole of the last, the overall incidence is definitely in decline, Mr Ellen says.

Woman of 68 fought off killer son-in-law

A Birmingham coroner paid tribute yesterday to the bravery of a grandmother who almost certainly saved her granddaughter during a triple shooting.

When her distraught son-in-law, Patrick Breslin, burst through a window with a sawn off shotgun at the family home in Birmingham last May Mrs Rose Meehan, aged 63, grappled with him in a vain attempt to seize the gun.

Breslin, aged 37, rushed upstairs and shot his estranged wife, Margaret, aged 38, twice. She died shortly afterwards in hospital.

Then, as his eldest daughter, Tracey, aged 10, came running from her bedroom, he shot her, killing her instantly.

Mrs Meehan, who had flown in from Ireland only hours earlier, shielded the youngest daughter, Stephanie, aged eight and later carried her from the house and handed her over the fence to neighbours. Meanwhile Breslin reloaded, put the gun to his throat and fired.

The coroner, Dr Richard Whittington, recorded a verdict that Mrs Margaret Breslin and Tracy Breslin had been unlawfully killed and that Patrick Breslin took his own life.

Dr Whittington told relatives in court that they could be very proud of Mrs Meehan, who has since returned to her home in Co Donegal.

Det Chief Insp Roy Bunn said that had it not been for Mrs Meehan there was every likelihood that the younger child would have been murdered.

The court heard that the couple separated two years ago and Mrs Breslin took the children back to Ireland where they had married. She eventually returned to Birmingham and had moved into the house in Institute Road two weeks before the shootings. Before the separation Mrs Breslin had complained of violence by her husband towards her.

Two days before her death she went to a local police station to ask for police protection.

'Jedi' video pirates fined £300

Two men were fined yesterday for having the first pirated video copies of the money spinning film, *Return of the Jedi*.

Five sets of the film were found by trading standards officers when they raided a south-west London video shop in June. They were hidden among other pirated tapes in a box in a car parked outside Xenon Electronics in Wimbledon.

Wimbledon magistrates were told that 541 illegal tapes, some in a bedroom and others on display, were seized from the shop during raids in March and June.

The shop manager, Yusuf Ali, of Kemilworth Avenue, Wimbledon, and the owner, Abdul Qureshi, of Melrose Avenue, Mitcham, south London, each admitted three charges of breaching copyright, 18 of offering to supply films and one of supplying a film, all in breach of the Trades Description Act.

They said they paid £10 for every tape but refused to disclose the source.

They were fined a total of £300 on two charges and given a two-year conditional discharge on the rest. They were each ordered to pay £150 costs.

Tight security in Lourdes irks the church Bomb blast warning for Pope

From Roger Beardwood, Paris

More than 3,600 policemen, all armed and some in plain clothes, will be in Lourdes tomorrow for the arrival of the Pope at the start of a two-day visit.

Security, already tight, was strengthened, after a bomb rocked the first Station of the Cross near the basilica.

A group calling itself Arrêts Cures (down with the clergy) claimed responsibility, saying the Pope was "the president and director-general of the Vatican multinational corporation visiting his French subsidiary."

Police yesterday found a large-calibre pistol in a left-luggage locker at Tarbes railway station, near Lourdes, but later announced it to be a collector's copy that cannot be fired.

Vandals set fire to a fifteenth century church at Saintes, in Charente Maritime department, badly damaging the interior. Slogans spray-painted on outside walls read "Vive le Diable!" (up with the Devil) and mentioned Lourdes.

In Lourdes, the church is highly critical of the tight security. Father Joseph Bordes, responsible for shrines at Lourdes and one of the organizers of the papal visit, said he hoped the bombing - "this desecration act of vandalism" - would not deter pilgrims. If it did, "that would be the end of civilization."

An estimated 200,000 people are expected in Lourdes. They will include several thousand Pope. Father Bordes said that if there are fewer than a quarter of a million people "that will be a true outrage" against the Pope.

Officially, the Pope's visit is pastoral. But, significantly, it will start with a private meeting with President Mitterrand. They will have much to discuss. The Church is unhappy about proposals to reimburse, through social security, the cost of abortions, and about plans to integrate Roman Catholic schools into the state education system.

About 1.9 million French children are in Roman Catholic schools, but the governing Socialists view them as elitist and reflecting the strong anti-clerical strain in French life, resent any state support for them.

The church is in poor shape in France. Although 80 per cent

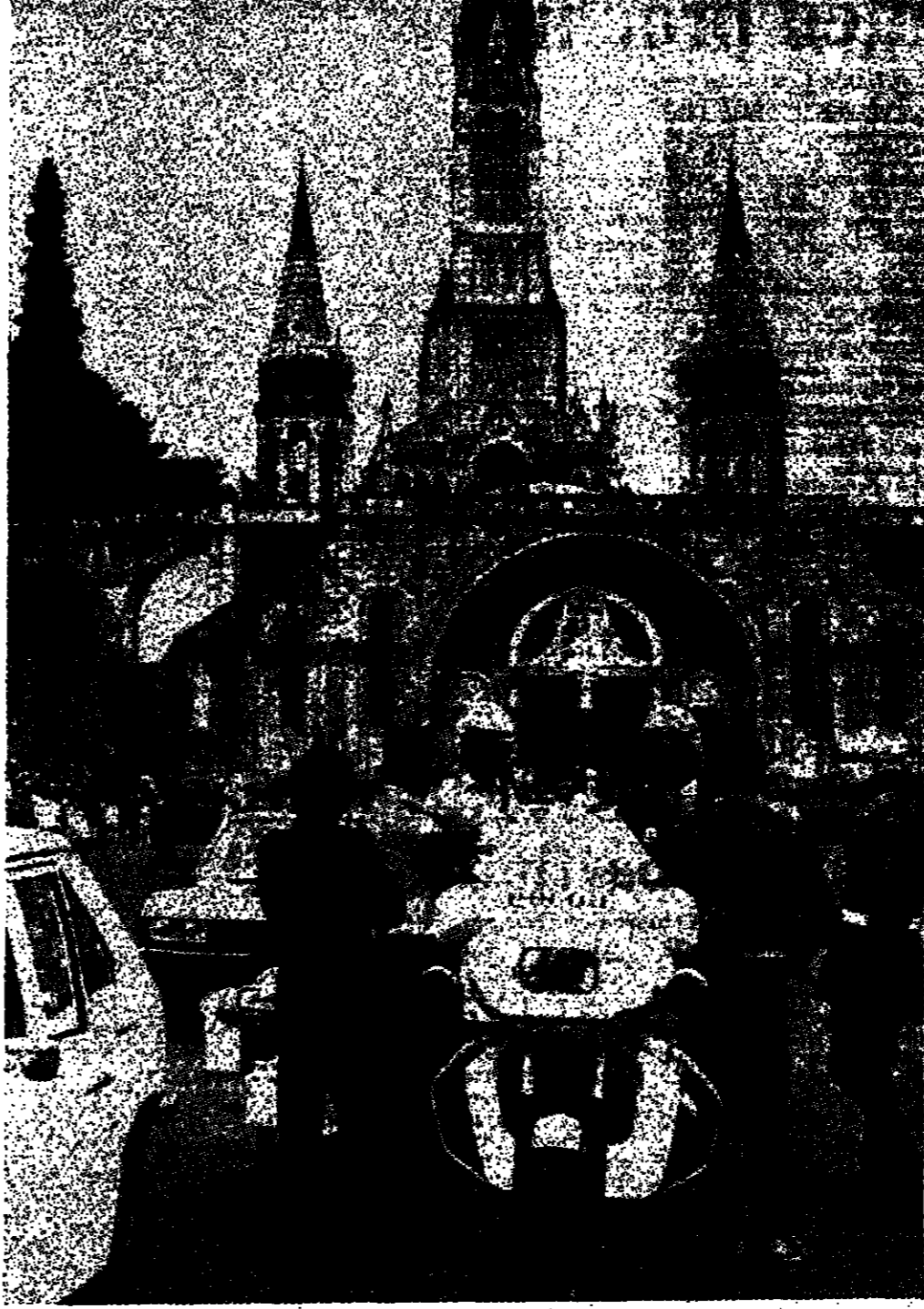
of the French are nominally Catholic, only ten to twelve per cent are regular communicants, according to a recent survey.

Since 1965, the number of priests has dropped from 41,000 to 30,000, or fewer than one to a parish. Most French people

marry in church and have their children baptized and confirmed.

Lourdes, a town of 19,000 people in the foothills of the Pyrenees, remains one of France's great spiritual centres, devoted to the Virgin Mary and St Bernadette.

Of 4.4 million visitors last year, the church estimates that more than three quarters were pilgrims. About 70,000 were suffering from ailments they hoped to cure in supposedly miracle-working waters.



Church and state: Some of the 3,600 policemen who will be in Lourdes for the Pope's visit take up position outside the basilica.

Journalist killed in Gulf War minefield

Tokyo (AFP) - Mr Kazumoto Monoe, the Japanese correspondent of the Tokyo newspaper *Asahi Shimbun*, yesterday described how he and two other journalists were wounded, and a third killed, in a minefield in the Iran-Iraq battlefield.

Mr Monoe, who is in hospital with a slight shoulder wound, said that at the time the mine exploded, the journalists were climbing Hill 340, recently taken from Iraqi troops in a recent Iranian offensive. The hill is a strategic point overlooking the Iranian border town of Mehriz.

He noticed, just before the explosion, that many small mines were scattered about the hillside.

Iranian troops had cleared a passage 28m wide through the centre of the minefield for the press party, accompanied by an Islamic guidance (Information) Ministry official.

The official and an Iranian, Mr Najmullah Hassan, Reuters correspondent, stepped too far to the left and were killed when a mine exploded.

Mr Monoe in his hospital bed drew a sketch showing that Mr Hassan was only 10 yards away from the Iranian official when they were killed.

Mr Monoe, who has been in Iran for 18 months, said: "Our guide, who was killed, did not have much experience of frontline conditions and the Iranian soldiers could not speak English so could not warn us of any dangers."

Mr Monoe, an Italian journalist and an Iranian reporter were carried 300 yards to a lorry which then drove 12 miles over a rough road where they were given medical treatment before being taken by helicopter to hospital at Behraman.

At present the three journalists are here in the Mustapha Khomeini hospital, named after the deceased son of Iran's religious leader.

Mr Hassan, aged 37, the father of two children, flew here only two days ago to relieve Reuters' permanent correspondent, Mr Paul Edie, who is on leave in Australia.

Signor Giovanni Castella, who has been here for the past three and-a-half years as correspondent for the Italian news agency, Ansa, was slightly wounded, by shrapnel in the lung, for which he had a successful operation.

Lindbergh killer's widow loses \$100m (£66m) damages suit

Newark, New Jersey (Reuters) - The widow of the man executed in 1936 for the kidnap and murder of the baby son of Charles Lindbergh, the American aviator who lost her attempt to have his conviction overturned.

Judge Frederick Lacey ruled on Thursday that Mrs Anna Hauptmann, aged 83, had failed to produce evidence to prove her husband's constitutional rights were violated during his trial. The statute of limitations had also expired in the case, the judge added.

Mrs Hauptmann filed a \$100m (£66m) damages suit in October 1981, alleging that the rights of Richard Brung Hauptmann had been violated by New Jersey's Attorney General at the time, Mr Richard Wilentz.

The suit also declared that the body said to be that of the Lindbergh baby was not the boy, even though it was identified by the father.

It said an examination of the body showed the skeleton was 33% in long, while the Lindbergh child was only 29% at the time of the kidnapping.

Mrs Hauptmann contended that Mr Wilentz had knowingly presented perjured, false and misleading testimony at the trial and had conspired with the Hearst publishing empire to deprive Hauptmann of his right to a fair trial.

She also asserted that he had authorized illegal tapping of telephone conversations of defence personnel.

On Thursday Judge Lacey ruled that: "She (Mrs Hauptmann) provided no material facts to indicate that there was an agreement between Wilentz and Hearst."

India opposes partition of Sri Lanka

Delhi (AP) - Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, yesterday announced India's support for ethnic reconciliation in riot-torn Sri Lanka - by uniting the Tamils and the Sinhalese rather than by partitioning the country.

In a statement to Parliament, Mrs Gandhi rejected the demands of Tamils in both Sri Lanka and India for an independent state for the Tamil minority.

She said she had offered Indian assistance to President Jayewardene, a Sinhalese, to restore broken ties with Sri Lanka Tamils "to find a lasting solution to their problems within the framework of a united Sri Lanka."

President Jayewardene "readily welcomed" the Indian offer, Mrs Gandhi said, reporting on talks in Delhi with Mr Hector Jayewardene, the President's personal envoy and brother.

Mrs Gandhi also announced she was establishing an Indian relief fund for Sri Lanka to be started with a contribution of 10m rupees (£666,000) from her own national relief funds and administered by a committee that she would head.

COLOMBO: The official death toll in the communal violence was given yesterday as 384 and not 550 as stated on Wednesday. (Donovan, Maldrich writes).

Mr Douglas Lyanage, Secretary of the Ministry of State, said that figure had been revised because of the inclusion of information from "outstations" and not because of any new killings.

Altogether 317 civilians died in mob violence while 34 civilians, including looters, were killed.



Gendarmette aims for the top

Mme Marie-Josée Latapie, one of the first eight women to break into that male preserve of France's national police force, the Gendarmerie Nationale.

The eight, nicknamed gendarmettes by the French press, were trained alongside men at the forces school at Montfaucon in central France. Eight others have become instructors and there are plans for 160 women in the force by next year (Roger Beardwood writes).

Mme Latapie, aged 24, who was formerly a secretary in the gendarmerie, started her

duties at Béziers in the South-west. She says she has no strong vocation for police work but is ambitious. "I am studying for the examination to become an officer," she said. Like the other gendarmettes she will earn 4,200 francs (about £342) a month for the first two months, thereafter rising to a maximum of 7,000 francs. Women receive pay equal to that of their male colleagues.

The gendarmette, which numbers 79,598, including administrative workers, comes under the Ministry of Defence and patrols the highways as well as policing rural areas

IUDs raise pelvic risk nine times

Chicago (Reuters) - Women using intrauterine contraceptive devices (IUDs) are nine times more likely to develop a serious inflammatory disorder than users of other birth control devices according to an American study.

Women still relying on the Dalkon Shield, an IUD taken off the market nearly a decade ago, are at particularly high risk, said the study published in this week's *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The complication, pelvic inflammatory disease, affects an estimated 350,000 women in the United States each year. It can lead to fallopian tube pregnancies and infertility.

Veneral disease and IUDs both appeared to play a role in the disorder, the study said.

Craxi wins vote amid Gelli furore

From Peter Nichols, Rome

Signor Bettino Craxi's Government has won its vote of confidence in the Chamber, but under the shadow of the spectacular escape from a Swiss prison of Licio Gelli, the head of the banned P2 masonic lodge.

The vote - 261 to 243, came a day late. The result, however, was a foregone conclusion because Signor Craxi, although the first Socialist Prime Minister of Italy, leads a broad coalition drawn from five parties offering him substantial parliamentary support. The debate now passes to the Senate.

Parliament moved quickly to set up a new commission from both Houses to inquire into the Gelli Affair. Signor Craxi's deputy who presided over a similar commission in the last parliament, was asked to chair it.

Meanwhile, the new Government faced up to the Gelli case affair. Signor Oscar Scalfaro, the Interior Minister, said that the Italian secret services had informed the Swiss authorities of a possible attempt to free Signor Gelli.

A letter sent to the Prime Minister by Signor Pietro Longo, the Minister for the Budget, created a deeper stir.

Signor Longo leads the Social Democrats and was the only party secretary to appear on the lists of alleged lodge members found in Signor Gelli's home.

In a note to Signor Craxi yesterday, he referred to the photostatic of a letter over the "pressing signature" of Gelli, "expressing gratitude" to the Government for its "generous" treatment of the authors of this "forgery".

Briton accused of arson over blaze in forest

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A British motorist and his German companion were charged with arson and remained in custody yesterday in connection with a forest fire along the Athens-Salonika highway, 20 miles north of the capital.

Brian Walter Weststead, aged 42, who lives in Switzerland, and Petra Marguerite, of Stuttgart, were arrested following claims to police that a fire had started after they left a parking area on the highway.

Both denied any involvement when they spoke to journalists outside the magistrate's office.

Royal wrangle threatens Swazi peace

From Kay Kennedy, Johannesburg

A battle royal is developing over the dismissal from office of the Queen Regent of Swaziland amid signs that the tiny African kingdom for so long the epitome of peace in a turbulent continent, is heading for a serious constitutional crisis.

Yesterday police were posted around the broadcasting station in Mbabane, the capital, shortly before Prince Bhekimpi Dlamini, the Prime Minister, went on radio and television to denounce moves by a faction within the royal family to annul the appointment as regent of Queen Nombi, mother of Prince Makhosive, aged 15, who has been named successor to the throne.

The royal family of Swaziland is vast. King Sobhuza II, who died last year after 61 years

of absolute rule, had 100 wives and more than 400 children.

Sources in Mbabane said: "The situation is calm but Swazis, who are royalists to a man, are growing angry over the feuding within the royal family. They want to know who is in charge."

The crisis came earlier this week with a proclamation in a government gazette that Queen Dzulwe, King Sobhuza's senior wife and known to the nation as the *Indlovukazi*, the Great She-Elephant, had been replaced as regent by Queen Nombi on the orders of the Supreme Council of State, the Liqoqo.

Within 24 hours it was announced that Queen Nombi's only son, Prince Makhosive, who is attending Greenhill House School, a unit

of Sherborne College in Dorset, would succeed to the throne when he is 21.

But a faction of the royal family led by Prince Gabbani, Minister of Home Affairs and a senior member of the Defence Council which controls the Army and the police, had denounced Queen Dzulwe's dismissal as illegal.

Yesterday he called a "meeting of the nation," a traditional Swazi gathering at which grievances are aired in public, for today at the royal *Kraal* at Lombamba.

His announcement was followed by the Prime Minister's broadcast that such a meeting itself would be illegal and repeated that the appointment of Queen Nombi as regent remained in force.

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Zia strengthens role of president and sets martial law time limit

From Michael Hamlyn Islamabad

President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan last night unveiled his plans for new elections in the country. His scheme envisages constitutional changes strengthening the role of the president. The job seems tailor-made for him.

Elections are to be held before March 23, 1985, for provincial assemblies, a national assembly and senate. The date has some significance in Pakistan's history, as a government minister later pointed out: it is Armed Forces Day.

The President, who is also chief martial law administrator, announced, however, that martial law would end after the elections. He said the elections would be held on the basis of the 1973 constitution, with certain amendments.

Speaking in front of the Majlis-e-Shoora, his nominated federal council, who sat in pairs at parliamentary desks and applauded by rapping the tops of frequent intervals, the President described the constitutional changes he proposed to carry into effect.

The Prime Minister would be appointed by the President, he said, though he would have to command a majority of the National Assembly. The President could dismiss the National Assembly and call fresh elections within 75 days. The President would have the power to send back any legislation he did not like for reconsideration.

Explaining this last point afterwards, General Mujibur Rahman, the Minister of Information, said it did not amount to a veto, but he did not indicate that there was any method by which the President's wishes could be overridden.

The only body able to override the president's wishes is to be a national security council, the composition of



General Zia: A tailor made post

which has yet to be disclosed, but which seems certain to provide some institutional role for the military. The council will have the power to say when a state of emergency is to be declared.

The President was quite firm, however, that "there shall be no new role assigned to the armed forces". And the President would also have the power to appoint the heads of the armed services.

Although the new democratic arrangements are described as Islamic, General Zia emphasized that the country was not to be a theocracy. There would be no constitutional role for the Council on Islamic Ideology, even though, as was made clear, the council had envisaged such a role for itself in presenting proposals to the regime.

The constitutional changes are Islamic to the extent that candidates standing for election must fulfil certain requirements of honesty and decency. It has not been made clear yet whether the national provincial elections will be run on a party-political basis.

Under the 1973 constitution the President himself is elected by members of the provincial assemblies and the National

Assembly. General Zia proposed no change in this arrangement, although he had been widely expected to announce a directly elected presidency. It was not stated, however, when the next presidential election would take place.

General Zia made it clear that he intends to stay in charge at least until the democratic process has fully worked out. The measures I have just announced, God willing, will be completed under my supervision," he said.

Wearing a neatly cut, grey civilian shawl - the high-necked formal national dress - he told the assembled councillors, who included 14 women neatly segregated on the left: "We will make the transition of power peaceful and smooth."

"There are people," he added, "who will try to sabotage this. But if they try to create chaos they will be dealt with severely and sternly. I am not like those who create chaos and trouble."

By making his announcement two days before his self-imposed deadline of August 14, Independence Day, the President has upstaged the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), a coalition of banned political parties which plans a day of demonstrations for Sunday.

However, many leaders of the MRD have been arrested or have gone underground, as a result of a series of police sweeps in the past few days, and one of the main props of the MRD has been kicked from under it with the withdrawal of the National Democratic Party.

The fissiparous tendencies of the opposition, the increased activity of the security forces, and the general popularity of the Islamization programme seem likely to ensure that General Zia's new proposals will have a reasonably easy ride.

16 killed in Chile day of protest

From Florencia Varas Santiago

Sixteen people were killed, 100 wounded and 700 arrested in the 24-hour protest called by the Chilean opposition against the regime of President Pinochet. The dead included three children, aged between eight and ten years.

The government, which brought in 18,000 soldiers from regiments around the country, severely repressed the various demonstrations which took place in the streets and at universities.

The worst violence occurred on the outskirts of Santiago, in the shanty-towns La Hermida and La Victoria, where police entered several houses, smashing them up and arresting the occupants.

Santiago was like an occupied city: there was no special police squads. They were stationed under bridges and on the rooftops of tall buildings, while army lorries filled with soldiers carrying machine guns patrolled all sectors of the city.

As predicted, the armed forces were issued with orders to shoot to kill and in the Tobalaba area a group of boys who threw stones at the soldiers were fired on. Six of the children were seriously wounded.

A curfew was enforced between 6.30pm on Thursday and 5am yesterday. The city was left completely to the military patrols, as all safe-conduct passes had been revoked, including those of diplomats and journalists, except for government and military officials.

Yesterday's protest, in which the opposition called for the resignation of President Pinochet, was the most violent of recent demonstrations. For the first time, despite the presence of the armed forces, the protesters paraded under their noses.

In the shanty-towns people built barricades with tyres which were set alight, to keep out the armed forces. In between the racket of pots and pans being banged - the characteristic opposition "noise protest" - one could hear shouts of: "It's going to fall, it's going to fall, the military dictatorship is going to fall."

The new Cabinet recently announced by President Pinochet, ironically called "the one which will lead to an open dialogue", had the worst possible debut with Thursday's events.

Yesterday the regime faced a formal accusation in court by the Commission for Human Rights over the way it reacted to the call for a "pacific protest". The right to protest and dissent peacefully is enshrined in a document recently issued by the Supreme Court.



Sudden death: A council worker using his silenced pistol on a stray during an anti-rabies drive in Istanbul's slums. The disease has killed 20 people in Turkey this year.

The war of words over Chad

France rejects Libyan approach

From Roger Beardwood Paris

French officials last night described as bizarre Libyan suggestions made through its official news agency Jana that France should join talks to end the conflict in Chad.

France's objections were apparently as much to the use of a news agency to pass on a message that should have gone through diplomatic channels, as with the content, which virtually invited France to end its support to President Hissène Habré.

The Foreign Ministry said: "We shall continue to support the legitimate government of Chad." The UN Security Council was due to discuss Chad, and France regarded that as a proper place for debate. Chad will also be considered by the Organization of African Unity.

The Ministry said: "We very much favour a local or regional solution, and if the OAU can contribute to that, provided the solution is acceptable to the Chad Government, we shall support its intervention."

There is relief in government circles here that President Reagan, in his latest statement on Chad, has apparently backed away from urging a joint Franco-American effort, emphasizing that Chad is mainly within the French sphere of influence and therefore its primary responsibility.

Until now the US has been talking of coordinating efforts. This has embarrassed the French Government because its own left wing and its Communist minority partners have been vehemently critical of France's playing what they see as a proxy role.

Mr Allam-mi Ahmad the Chad Chargé d'affaires in Paris, said the Jana message was a new attempt by Colonel Gaddafi the Libyan leader, to sow confusion and discord between Paris and Ndjamena and between Paris and Washington.

"All constructive dialogue is impossible with Tripoli, because there is no sign at all of a change of political direction there," he said.

The French Ministry of Defence continues to be reticent and vague about the size and composition of the 500 French troops ordered to Chad. It still maintains that they are not there in a combat role, but has admitted that if fired upon they might fire back.

● WASHINGTON: By declaring that Chad is primarily France's sphere of influence, President Reagan has ruled out any direct US military intervention in Chad (Mohsin Ali writes).

However he announced Colonel Gaddafi's "empire-building" making it clear to a hurriedly-convened press conference on Thursday that the US would continue to send military supplies to President Habré's Government.

But when asked if the US would allow Chad to fall to Libyan forces rather than intervene, the President replied: "As I have said before, it is not our primary sphere of influence. It is that of France. We remain in constant consultation with them but I do not see any situation that would call for military intervention by the US there."

The President also said he did not think that the fall of the northern oasis town of Faya-Largeau to Libyan and Libyan-backed insurgents on Wednesday marked the imminent end of the Chad war. He said that

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Faya-Largeau was a long way from the capital of Ndjamena.

When asked whether France should provide air support to Chad, the President said: "Well, as I say, I do not know what their plans are. Frankly we had believed at first that there was going to be some actual activity there. I do not know whether they are negotiating at the same time with Libya or not."

The President recalled that his Administration was giving emergency military supplies to Chad worth \$2.5m (£1.6m) and that the US had offered to transport troops from other African states to help President Habré's Government.

"But we are not in any way in line for participating militarily other than that," the President said, evidently setting limits on US military aid to Chad.

He added: "I think the whole attitude of Gaddafi and his empire-building is a concern to anyone. But the main concern is to the surrounding African states. They are all very much alarmed and disturbed because they believe that they are all under a threat."

● CAIRO: Egyptian authorities finally announced early yesterday that the Bright Star joint military exercises with 5,500 US soldiers had started after a 48-hour news blackout (AFP reports).

Amid rumours of cancellation, reliable sources said the manoeuvres had been launched around Cairo on Wednesday as announced in Washington on July 10.

The blackout, in contrast to publicity given to the last joint exercises in 1981, three weeks after the assassination of President Sadat, can be explained by Egyptian caution over the war in Chad, observers said.

Force ruled out against atoll landing

The Government yesterday rejected suggestions that it was planning to use a frigate to remove 36 coconut fibre merchants from a tiny island in the Indian Ocean, about 130 miles from Diego Garcia.

The Ministry of Defence said it had no plans to involve any naval vessel in the situation, which arose when the merchants, from Mauritius, landed illegally on the uninhabited atoll of Peros Banhos.

The attitude of the Foreign Office is that a representative of the British Indian Ocean Territory has had contact with the Mauritians on the atoll and that there is every reason to suppose that they will leave peacefully within a short time.

No political significance is being read into the Mauritians' presence on the island. The frigate Andromeda, which had been reported as being on its way to remove the Mauritians, is in fact believed to be scheduled to make a goodwill visit to Mauritius later this month.

Money machine gets the bullet

Largo, Florida (AP) - A man confined to a wheelchair pulled out a pistol and fired six times at an automatic bank teller when the machine kept his plastic bank card and refused to give him the money.

Mr Thomas Jackson Morton, aged 34, a Vietnam veteran, admitted he lost his temper. He said he probably did not hear the machine beep at him when he incorrectly entered his identification code. Police are considering charges.

Model freed by kidnappers

Florence (AP) - Ludovica Machiavelli, a descendant of the political philosopher, was freed by kidnappers on Thursday after being held for more than three months.

The 24-year-old fashion model's father said he paid a large ransom, but declined to give an exact figure.

Actress flies in

Koo Stark, the actress friend of Prince Andrew, arriving in Sydney from London for a television appearance, and thereby ending speculation that the couple would meet at Balmoral after the Prince's return from a canoeing holiday in Canada.

Governors poll

Lagos (Reuters) - Nigerian voters elect 19 state governors today. President Shagari's ruling National Party controls only seven of the states being contested, but expects to win 16.

Memory clue

Portland, Oregon (AP) - The man severely injured in a traffic accident and now in hospital here thinks his name is David Miller and believes he is from London, but remembers little else. A London woman responding to a BBC broadcast said she remembered going to school with someone of that name.

Nkomo stays

Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe opposition leader who fled to Britain in March, has been given permission to stay for a further month, the Home Office said.

Leader returns

Cleveland (AP) - President Joao Figueiredo of Brazil has returned to Brazil, four weeks after undergoing heart bypass surgery at the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio.

Disaster aid

Washington (AFP) - The US Agency for International Development will send \$75m (£50m) in disaster aid to Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia, which are suffering the effects of floods and drought.

Refugees home

Nairobi (The Ugandan Vice-President, Mr Paulo Nuvwanga, has told Parliament that most of the 10,000 people displaced by an anti-guerrilla operation in Luwero district have gone back to their homes.

AIDS no help

New York (AFP) - A bank robber who terrified cashiers into handing over money by claiming he had the killer disease AIDS has been arrested. Garnett Wilson, aged 36, handed over a piece of paper saying: "I have AIDS and less than 30 days to live."

Diplomat's son in brief defection

From Leslie Gell (New York Times), Washington

The 16-year-old son of a Soviet diplomat here took his parents' car and ran away from home because he hated his country and loved America, according to a letter signed with his name.

By the time the boy had returned home to a Washington suburb less than 24 hours after his flight on Wednesday, he had created a diplomatic incident, involving the State Department, the FBI and police.

Some aspects of his disappearance remain a mystery. It is not clear whether government authorities, at the time they ordered the search, understood that the boy's departure

might involve a possible defection. Soviet officials told the State Department that Andrei Berezichkov, son of Mr Valentin Berezichkov, a first secretary in the embassy, had taken the car but then returned home at 2 am on Thursday.

A letter in English, dated Tuesday and signed Andy Berezichkov, was received at the Washington office of The New York Times on Thursday. The writer said he had also written to President Reagan asking for help.

"I hate my country and its rules and I love your country," the letter said. "I want to stay here." Mr Oleg Sokolov, the Soviet

Minister-Counsellor, when asked about the incident, said: "The situation is perfectly clear. The boy is back home with his parents. As far as the authenticity of this letter, we certainly think it is a forgery, and it looks like a very clear provocation to us."

State Department officials said they were asking the Soviet Embassy for the right to see the youth, and that he should not leave the country before being interviewed.

The last case of a Soviet youngster running away in the United States occurred in 1980, when 12-year-old, Walter Polovchak left his parents' home in Chicago to live with a relative.

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Reagan renews his broadside against Castro

From Christopher Thomas Washington

President Reagan, worried by the increasingly sophisticated political machine of America's Spanish-speaking community, yesterday denounced President Castro for selling young Cubans as cannon fodder to the Soviet Union.

Apart from ingratiating himself with Cuban exiles in the United States, Mr Reagan abruptly ended a period of calm in which both he and the Cuban leader have been sounding more conciliatory over developments in Central America.

Dr Castro set a more moderate tone a few weeks ago by offering to pull all his advisers out of central America if the United States did the same. Mr Reagan has been saying all along that he welcomed the gesture and was looking for evidence of sincerity.

But in yesterday's speech to the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in Tampa, Florida, he declared that the United States did not meet its responsibilities in Central America "he will pay dearly". The security aspect of the challenge must be addressed. Those who suggested otherwise were courting disaster, he said.

Mr Reagan's trip to Florida opened four days of speech-making before Hispanic groups, whose numbers continue to grow rapidly. Their political machine, long encumbered by squabbles reminiscent of those endemic in their former homelands, is at last showing signs of effectiveness. And, as President

Reagan knows, it is working in favour of the Democrats. The President will hold talks tomorrow with President de la Madrid of Mexico in La Paz, during which he will seek Mexican support for his Central America policies.

Meanwhile the civil in El Salvador has resulted in the deaths of more than double the number of Government troops in the past year compared to the previous year, according to reports reaching Washington. But all the signs are that the guerrillas - at least for now - are being beaten back.

In the year to June 30, 2,292 troops were killed in action and 328 were listed as missing. The increases reflect intensified efforts by Government troops and there is said to be an atmosphere of "real optimism" that the guerrillas are retreating. Any suggestion of victory, however, is absent from progress reports on the conflict.

● MANGUA: US backed insurgents blew up a bridge near the Nicaraguan town of Jinotega in the deepest penetration of their offensive, the Defence Ministry said (Reuters reports). The attack cut the town off

from a large area of northern Nicaragua.

● COMAYAGUA, HONDURAS: Some 300 US troops were setting up the nerve centre here for the largest military manoeuvres ever staged in Central America (Reuters reports).

The troops are establishing a communications centre, barracks and mess hall for exercises that will involve 5,600 US ground troops, 6,000 Honduran soldiers and three naval fleets carrying 16,000 military personnel.

Leading article, page 7

UN asked to take strong line

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

With the war in Chad as a common theme, the United Nations Security Council yesterday continued to hold separate sessions as Chad sought to vilify Libya in one, and Libya tried in the other to portray the United States as the true adventurer in North Africa.

The Soviet Union which is trying to strike a balance between its allegiance to Libya and its attempts to court Egypt, called on the US to end imperialist meddling in Chad but stopped short of giving unreserved support to Libya.

Mr Korom Ahmed, the Deputy Foreign Minister of Chad, made an impassioned appeal to the council during the first session on Thursday to take measures to force Libya to end its armed aggression. He said the conflict could no longer be characterized as a civil war between internal factions but as a war between Libya and Chad.

He described the Libyan forces as an armada of heavy weaponry which saw as its destiny the takeover of areas which went far beyond the borders of Chad into the Sudan, Egypt, Cameroon, Nigeria and Niger.

In Thursday's second debate the United States rejected Libyan charges that the Reagan administration was intent on the overthrow of the government of Colonel Gaddafi, calling them an attempt to confuse Libyan aggression

against Chad with a "smoke-screen of patently diversionary countercharges".

Mr Charles Lichtenstein, the American representative, said the motivating force behind Libya's brand of neo-colonialism was the Soviet Union. Libya had taken its complaint to the Council to protest against the joint US-Egyptian military exercises as well as similar ones in the Sudan, Somalia and Oman.

While Chad, Libya and the United States issued hard-line statements which saw little scope for compromise other countries in the region - Egypt, Ivory Coast and Sudan - delivered speeches striking in their moderation.

Peking sends film crew

From Richard Hughes, Hongkong

China has sent a four-man team to Hongkong for the first time to make an on-the-spot film "to introduce Hongkong to Chinese mainlanders".

In the past documentaries of Chinese showing have been shot by Hongkong film companies. The Peking team - writer, sound technician and two cameramen - will be assisted by SU-Metropole, a Hongkong firm, whose assistant managing director, Mr Chen China-Po, said the documentary would

"concentrate heavily on Hongkong's economic system and close-ups of life and living - as well as scenery".

The unpublicized arrival of the Chinese team coincided with an official announcement that the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Hongkong on 15 October for two days on his Asian tour as international president of the World Wildlife Fund.

He will go bird-watching in Hongkong's New Territories.

British give cool welcome to Argentine move

By Rodney Cowton Defence Correspondent

The Foreign Office yesterday welcomed the announcement from the Central Bank of Argentina that discriminatory financial restrictions on British companies had been lifted.

A spokesman for the Foreign office said, however, that time would be needed to establish whether the restrictions actually were lifted.

Britain sees this as a useful step towards normal relations with Argentina, but its welcome for the Argentine move is qualified because it was the British understanding that these restrictions were to have been lifted as long ago as last September when Britain lifted financial restrictions.

This move, and also the recent call for an early resumption of negotiations on the future of the Falkland Islands, are seen in Whitehall as part of a process on the part of Argentina to prepare the ground for a debate on the Falklands in the United Nations General Assembly.

Business news, page 11

Druze exploit their hold on Beirut airport

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Lebanese Government promises that it would consider demands made by Druze leaders after two days of fighting around Beirut that cost at least 27 lives prompted Mr Walid Jumblatt to urge the reopening yesterday of the capital's international airport.

Mr Jumblatt's Progressive Socialist Party militia announced in Damascus that it would respect the latest ceasefire in the Chouf mountains. If the tentative contacts between President Gemayel's Cabinet and the Druze appear on the surface to presage some

fresh stability in Lebanon, it would be an illusion. The Druze are now claiming that Beirut airport is being used "for the purpose of subjugating us" - in the words of Mr Jumblatt's party - because Lebanese Air Force Hawk Hunter jet fighters based there are a threat to Druze positions in the Chouf.

Mr Gemayel cannot submit to Druze demands for the withdrawal of the Lebanese Army from the edge of the Chouf, and Druze requests that be dismissed are unlikely to be heeded.

Israeli Cabinet meets in defence cuts crisis

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem

Urgent moves to rescue Israel from its most severe economic crisis continued yesterday when the Cabinet convened in emergency session at army headquarters in Tel Aviv to discuss proposals for a sweeping £240m cut in the defence budget.

The proposed reduction is one of a number contained in a controversial austerity package drawn up by the Treasury in an effort to trim public spending by a total of £705m. It has been vigorously resisted by Mr Moshe Arens, the new Defence Minister, and leading members of the military establishment. At yesterday's unusual

gathering, army chiefs spelt out what they claimed would be the dangers of cutting military spending at a time of Arab army expansion in the region. In a speech before the meeting, Mr Arens said: "The choice before us is a better life or life itself, and the Israel Defence Force is life itself."

Economic experts have repeatedly argued that any attempt to solve Israel's economic difficulties will have to include a pruning of the defence budget, which in 1982 amounted to more than 25 per cent of the gross domestic product. The continuing involvement in Lebanon is costing Israel about £600,000 a day. No final decisions were

taken yesterday about whether the Treasury scheme will be approved. Another Cabinet meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at which the whole austerity plan will be reviewed. The moves by Mr Yoram Aridor, the Finance Minister, to stave off the economic disaster, threatened by hyperinflation, spiralling foreign debt and a balance of payments crisis, are likely to have wide-ranging political repercussions. They will come at a time when the ruling coalition of Mr Menachem Begin enjoys only a narrow parliamentary majority.

Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the opposition Labour Party, has demanded that the Knesset be recalled for a special session to debate the economic crisis, which has already resulted this week in a 7.5 devaluation of the shekel.

The Labour Party leader was sharply critical of the plan for education cuts and reducing pensions. He claimed the desired saving could be achieved by two measures: complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and a halt to building work in the occupied West Bank.

● VIENNA: Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, will pay an official visit to Romania later this month (Reuters reports). Romania is the only Soviet-bloc country with diplomatic relations with Israel.

THE TIMES DIARY

A head of steam

The joke among those awaiting the announcement of a new chairman for British Rail (caught up no doubt in works on the line) is that Terence Higgins thought the Tory most likely to succeed to the job, can no longer hope to get it. The majority in his Worthing constituency is only 15,253. So here are a few names spotted in the marshalling yards...

Editorial excision

My former editor, Sir William Rees-Mogg, has just taken his blue pencil to Sir Roy Shaw, former secretary-general of the Arts Council, of which Rees-Mogg is chairman. Rees-Mogg had originally cleared for publication in the Arts Council's information bulletin a laudatory article by Shaw...

BARRY FANTONI



Curious how Gillian's Neville has started using a public call box?

Model to follow

With more spare time on his hands since he ceased to be chairman of the United Drapery Stores group, Bernard Lyons has written a psychological thriller, tentatively entitled The Narrow Edge. It concerns a woman with a mystery in her past which she cannot recall, and is in the hands of publishers in America. Lyons' only previous book was a privately printed volume of memoirs, The Thread is Strong...

Reader's Digest is shortly to publish a condensed Bible here. The American version, produced last year, is called The Reader's Digest Bible. How it will be the Reader's Bible. For you, on the title is condensed.

Swept away

By rights, we should have been celebrating the diamond jubilee of the Spangler vacuum cleaner this week. Instead it was the seventieth birthday of the Hoover. William Henry Hoover, owner of a failing horse and buggy business, persuaded J. Murray Spangler, an athletic caretaker in an Ohio department store, to part with the rights of the "electric broom" he had invented. As Adrian Room remarks in his dictionary of trade name origins, a Spangler vacuum would create "several favourable associations" (spangle, "spangle") that Hoover can never have. As to the diamond jubilee, Queen Victoria spoilt that by appropriating the jewel for the sixtieth anniversary of her accession to the throne, effectively ending its traditional association with seventy-fifth anniversaries.

At the evening institute in Rantwood, Essex, the coming season's art classes will be taken by Mr Painter; woodwork by Mr Jenner; Mrs Frost is in charge of Christmas decorations; and lessons for those who wish to improve their bridge will be taken by Mr Luck.

My local sandwich bar proprietor could have been luckier as to whom he sold a cockroach sandwich. It went to a Camden council employee fetching refreshments for a meeting at the Health Education Council's offices, and ended up in the mouth of a principal health education officer. Poor old Pete was fined £50 and £15 costs for selling contaminated food. He has since sold his lively business and is now unemployed.

PHS

How a four-year-old imagined a papal frolic in London - with an invitation, and inducement, to fill a literary lacuna

Young Daisy's visitor

A previously unpublished work by Daisy Ashford, author of The Young Visitors, has been discovered. Her family claim that she dictated it at the age of four to her parents. It is called The Life of Father McSwiney and tells the remarkable story of a jaunt to London by the reigning Pope a century before John Paul II's visit in 1982. Full of naive charm and mordant perception - and better spelt than most works by infant prodigies - it will be published on Thursday by the Oxford University Press in a collection of works from Daisy's oeuvre entitled The Hangman's Daughter and Other Stories.

An introduction tells the story of Daisy's childhood, with a section on how The Life of Father McSwiney came to be written.

Daisy's papist story was discovered last year, when Oxford published Love and Marriage, three romantic stories by Daisy and Angela Ashford. An interviewer on the BBC Kaleidoscope programme about Daisy spoke to Mrs Malcolmson, daughter of Daisy's sister Vera. Mrs Malcolmson mentioned having read the biography of the sparky Jesuit priest, Father McSwiney, some years ago and quoted some choice passages from memory.



Daisy Ashford, budding best-seller

Henry Hardy of OUP, prince of the literary resurrection men, was listening to the programme and immediately got on the

trail. He telephoned Mrs Margaret Steel, Daisy's elder daughter. Yes, she said, she thought she might have such a story in a drawer. It must have come back to her after Vera's death. When Dr Hardy asked why it had not been offered for publication before, she replied: "It never occurred to me that anyone would be interested."

The first half of the story tells of the birth and childhood of James McSwiney in Cork, his piety ("full of a grand and Jesuit-like joy"), his first confession ("I should like to be so much, as I feel rather wicked"), and his confirmation at the age of seven with "a nine and a half" painted on his chest in black figures to persuade the bishop that he was old enough. When the second part starts, McSwiney is about to become a Jesuit. Now read on.

A few lines of the manuscript towards the end are missing. About 34 words between "was rather" and "they caught the fleas". The Times and the Oxford University Press offer a prize of the Compact Edition of the Oxford English Dictionary to the reader who submits the best suggestion for the missing passage. Entries will be judged by Henry Hardy of OUP and Philip Howard, Literary Editor of The Times.

THE LIFE OF FATHER McSWINEY

WHEN James McSwiney was about twenty-five, he began to be a novice for the Jesuit life. After he had taken his vows, he began to wear horsehair shirts, and very tight belts with gold buttons. He wore sandals half a size too large for him, and a floppy hat with a green band, to show he was a Jesuit. He bought himself a magnificent prayer-book the day before he went to the monks' college.

When he got there, a housemaid in a red frock came out and said, "You must be very quiet, Jesuit. For there are visitors. There are four priests, and two very ignorant bishops."

He was then led to a dear little sitting-room, in which he found a first-rate novel which he began to read.

In a few minutes a man cook came in, and announced that there was a holy priest named Father McAuliffe come to see the Jesuit.

He had tinged curly hair, brushed back, and coming over one eye. He had most expressive pale blue eyes, which looked as if he had just come a very long journey, and a tender mouth.

"How do you do, my dear Father McAuliffe," exclaimed Father McSwiney.

"I do very well, thank you," replied Father McAuliffe, in a sweet angelic voice.

"I expect," said the good fat Father McSwiney, as he sat down, "you will be a canon in a few days, you look so dreadfully pious."

"Oh! well I don't quite know," said Father McAuliffe.

Then Father McSwiney blew his nose and began thus: "You know, I said the Mass of St Bernard this morning, and I don't think it agreed with me very much, as I don't feel very well."

"I'm so sorry to hear that," began Father McAuliffe, rapidly shrinking as he was not very strong: "it seems a great pity that a novice should not agree with his mass."

"It does seem a pity," said Father McSwiney, "but I never had a great devotion to St Bernard."

"I am afraid," said Father McAuliffe, looking very sad and timid, "that my Mission is very small, and somehow I'm rather uneasy about it."

"Is that so?" said Father McSwiney. "If I could convert a duke or two and send them down to you, that might make it better, mightn't it?"

"It would be so very kind if you would," said Father McAuliffe, "you see I don't quite know how to arrange my services; I have confessions before and after mass every morning, but the people tell so very few sins that the absolution isn't so long; so I can't sit peacefully there, and I think over what vestment I shall wear; and in my sermons I really don't know what to say. I either talk about the birth of our Lord, or obedience to the commandments of the Church, and I am sure the people must have heard it all before."

"That reminds me," said Father McSwiney, "that I had three sermons given to me by Father Scraphim, and they are all written out; they might do - you could read them out on the three coming Sundays."

"It would be such a pleasure if you would send me two or three," answered Father McAuliffe. "I'm sure I will be most grateful to you, and I will say many Our Fathers and Hail Marys for you. I suppose I had better go and see the priest of this retreat place, I have business to talk with him, if you do not mind my leaving you."

"Well to tell the truth, I am coming with you," said Father McSwiney, with a chuckle in his chest.

"You are lucky, holy Father," said a novice to Father McSwiney as he passed by.

"I know not the reason then," answered Father McSwiney, going upstairs.

At last he reached a small room, in which sat the Pope. Holding the habit which Father McSwiney did not know he was just going to receive.

"I have brought you a habit," said Pius IX, holding out a brown habit with a hood to it.

"Thank you, dear Pope," said Father McSwiney, throwing himself at the feet of Pope Pius IX.

Five days later Father McSwiney knocked at the Pope's door.

"Come in," said the Pope in an ill voice. "You have given me the wrong habit," said the good Jesuit.

"Have I? I thought you were going to be of the First Order of St Francis," said the mild and innocent Pius IX.

"Please give me the black habit, if your holiness does not mind," answered the most beautiful-in-his-worlds Father McSwiney.

"Most willingly," answered the Pope, giving the black habit at that moment to the Jesuit.

"My most honoured thanks to you," and out went Father McSwiney.

Retreat at Manresa was given by the Revd J. Gordon Goodwin, and Father McSwiney was shown upstairs by him after having said a pious goodbye to the Holy Father.

The room into which he was shown was very small indeed; it was furnished with three chairs and a small table in the middle, on which was the Old Testament and other pious books. In one corner of the room in a very draughty place was a bed made of an old straw mattress covered over with a quilt. Where the first ought to have been, but was not, was a small groto, made of oak wood. On this groto was a statue of Our Lady with two wax candles each side.

"Here," said Father Goodwin, "is your room; you see you have everything you want but your bath, and you will find that the opposite side of the landing. Whenever you are in here you must pray hard."

"Certainly, I shall be delighted," said the pious Father McSwiney, clasping his hands tight.

Next morning Father McSwiney jumped up and had his bath and then the Pope, who was in his dining-room, said that all the novices were to be taken to the meditation room to be tried on piousness.

This is how the Pope began: he said to Father McSwiney, who stood at the top of the class, "Say the Lord's Prayer."

Father McSwiney began in his low voice and after he had finished the Pope said, "What were you thinking about when you said it?"

"God," said Father McSwiney slowly.

"That's all right," said the Pope; "come here to me."

Father McSwiney walked up, his sacred face beaming with joy.

"Pax tecum," exclaimed the Pope, "you are the piouset of all."

Father McSwiney smiled and looked round at the other novices as if to say, "What do you think of that?" at which the other novices were rather insulted.

"I'll make you a Jesuit if you like," exclaimed the Pope.

Father McSwiney said "Yes," and this is how he was made a Jesuit. First of all the Pope washed his face in holy water and oil and then blessed him, after that he gave him fresh clothes and the Jesuit habit.

"Now," said the Pope, "you must stay in this monastery till you have grown a beard and then will be a Jesuit."

When his beard had grown he felt rather stuffy and wished monks could go without beards. And then a great event was to happen in honour of his being a Jesuit. A lovely mass was to be said at which the ladies were only allowed to sing the Kyrie. When the mass was over a lovely breakfast took place in the Manresa gardens.

There was first some lovely Italian coffee which the Pope had brought with him and some French tea; and then in the middle of the whipped cream, as they were eating them, the Pope said, "Let us make speeches - you begin, Father McSwiney."

Father McSwiney got up on a chair and said, "Clergy, ladies and gentlemen, as I have been made a Jesuit I stand on this rickety chair to give you thanks for coming to the entertainment. I don't mean to say that I think myself pious because I am a Jesuit - I might be very wicked. Oh how well I remember the first day I was in this monastery; and here he felt very like crying, so he got off the rickety chair and the Pope gave him a bun and an ice-cream in honour of his nice speech.

Then the Pope made his speech, but he stood on a throne and said, "Dominus vobiscum et cum spiritu tuo in nomine Patris et Filii etc. This is a happy day. I feel cold and joyous and I return thanks to the darling Father McSwiney who is so humble - he says he is wicked but ah! his goodness runs through my heart like sacramental wine."

Here the Pope began to weep violently, and nobody knew what for, but he managed to get off his throne somehow, and the Arch-bishop lugged him into an armchair, as he thought he was going to faint, and two bishops poured wine down his throat.

As the three walked together the waiter said, "There's a love scene in the play," and here the Pope nudged Father McSwiney.

There was a love scene, and it was very pious, and in it there was a great deal of conversation about St. Joseph, and Father McSwiney laughed with pleasure; in fact the Pope did too.

Between the acts they went out and had brandy and water and a pint of whisky toddy, and the Pope, although the Father of all Christians, thought it was quite necessary.

They did not enjoy Drury Lane as much as they thought they would, because the lady at the bar kissed her hand to Father McSwiney, and that they thought was very fast. So they immediately went to the Gaiety Restaurant to have a few mutton chops and fried soles.

In the middle of supper the Pope rang the bell for some mashed potatoes and gravy, and in came a red-faced tipsy waiter. The Pope was fairly astonished, and to show that he was so he poured two or three drops of water down the waiter's throat, and patted his back to see if it would make him come un-drunk, but it was no good.

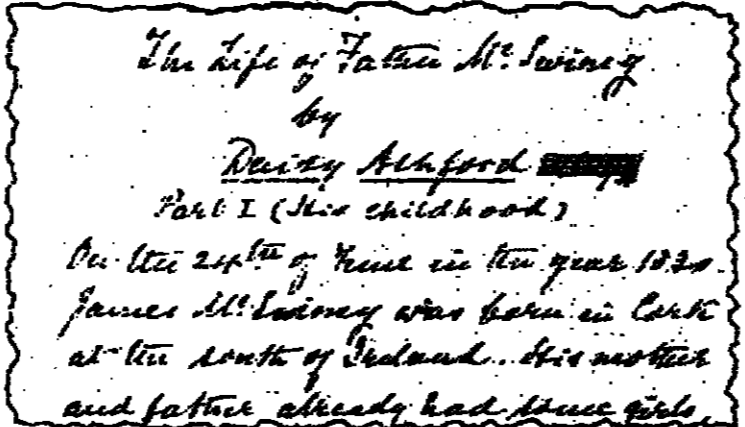
So what do you think that talented Father McSwiney did? He made the waiter sit in front of the fire till he got his right senses, and then he sat beside him on the sofa and gave him full instructions on not being drunk, while the Pope looked on and smoked a pipe. After that awful adventure they soon left that restaurant you may be sure.

That night these two were very unfortunate. They could not find a bed anywhere, so they wandered about the low streets of London till they saw a fat old man, who volunteered to give them a night's lodging in his Public...

[Here a third of a page of the manuscript is torn off and missing] ... was rather ... they caught fleas and went to sleep.

The next morning the Pope told Father McSwiney to go and teach in St Peter's College in Russia, and the good Pope went back to Rome after having had a merry trip, and then he left Father McSwiney with many tears and a little present of a pair of vestments and his photograph. And now Father McSwiney is very comfortable at Manresa where his first began his monkish life.

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Brief flowering of a girl of letters

The Father McSwiney story - part of the manuscript is shown above - adds another intriguing chapter to Daisy Ashford's brief but brilliant literary career. The Young Visitors was the product of her more mature years - written at the age of nine when her sisters were playing at shops at their home in Lewes, Sussex. But, like Visitors, Father McSwiney was put away in a drawer and forgotten; almost 30 years passed before it was published, with an introduction by J. M. Barrie.

Because of the sophistication of much of its style and content, many readers believed it was he who had written it - one chased the publisher down Wigmore Street shouting: "Did he, or did she?" Barrie was reluctant to endorse the book but most critics agreed that even without his preface, it would have become a runaway success - at one stage it was selling thousands of copies a year.

Daisy Ashford wrote several other stories, but her output virtually stopped when she went to convent school. The picture at left was taken in 1968, four years before her death at the age of 50.



Peter Nichols

In stitches but not laughing in the Casbah of Cures

Not the Peter Nichols. Not the one whose pertinent reports on modern Italy you may regularly read in these pages, the one whose wife - according to mine, who is often mistaken for her - gives memorable dinner parties in the hills above Rome.

No, I was until lately a playwright and once wrought a play called The National Health, staged - with some reluctance during Oliver's seasons at the Old Vic, all of 15 years ago, so that anyone under 30 will need to be told that it was a brilliant production with a large cast (20m, 10f) and gave a pretty grim impression of life in the medical ward of a London teaching hospital which I called the Sir Stafford Cripps. And anyone under 30 will need to be told that Stafford Cripps was the embodiment of post-war austerity.

The play had started from my own observations as a patient during three attempts to inflate a collapsed lung, but had become with each draft more ghoulish, a process I now see to be an error of judgment. Still it was nothing like as morbid as Orwell's essay How the Poor Die, which was to some extent my model. This told of a patient in a Paris hospital in the 1920s and dwelt on brutal remedies and casual death with a relish that Swift might have envied. Yet for all that, Orwell's widow was among many on the left who thought my play a reactionary attack on the health service.

In fact, I have never doubted that the NHS was an aspect of public life for which every British person could feel some pride. Being well-established, it could not be harmed by criticism, only strengthened, so hardy and fruitful that no government would dare uproot it, so obviously right that private medicine would soon, like Marx's proletariat, wither away. We live and learn.

Brought down by a virus, needing a minor operation and faced with an intolerable waiting list, I have for the first time paid for treatment in Harley Street. The operation was carried out in the early morning. I woke from the general anaesthetic at 10 and looked out on a scene as busy as any in Tehran or Kuwait. Burnouses and veils passed to and fro in this new Casbah of Cures. Fathers, leading their families to the right counter in this Harrods of Healing. And where did the shopkeepers learn their business? In those same National Health teaching hospitals which I had sent up in that old play.

Perhaps the Aneurin Bevan would have been a better name for my ward because it was he, not Cripps, who swung the service on the BMA by exploiting a rift between surgeons

and physicians. Many welcomed it, of course, and most learnt to work within it and still do, moonlighting in Harley Street for only part of the working week. So why worry? If oil money subsidizes our national health, isn't that only Robin Hood in modern dress, a new distribution of wealth?

Who can blame a nurse for going private when her association has promised not to strike for better pay, believing their work to be outside politics, which of course it is. This tension will not hold. I do not believe that commercial medicine and a real public health service can live together for long.

The last nail in the coffin of communism as killed by the Soviets

The tension will not hold. I do not believe that commercial medicine and a real public health service can live together for long... One of them must wither away. The question is, which?

was the news that they now allow a sector of private medicine. An arc of privilege is no more necessary or welcome in health than in education. If Marxism is only to be an alternative view of history, most of us won't be concerned. What interests us is the practice of equality, which notion Mary McCarby said was irresistible. In a world that values only profit, either commercial medicine or a public health service must wither away. The question now is, which?

We all know about waiting lists - I hear that a hernia may be done in seven years. An elderly woman friend of my mother's spent her savings on a hip operation that enabled her to leave the house. For advice on how to live with tinnitus, I would have had to wait two years - or two months if I paid. I not only bought my way up the queue but got a general rather than a local. "How the poor get cured" is as urgent now as how they die. And "who are the poor?" is another question.

Drinking a post-operative coffee after signing my cheque, I browsed through the brochures. A new scheme aims to attract British customers by offering twin-bedded rooms at a cost that will come within the range of the private insurance companies. So now ever the better-off British are - by the standards of Messrs Leech and Saubones - the official poor. Com back, Stafford Cripps, all is forgiven.

Roy Strong

Now a golden oldie road report

Whatever I am doing about the house, whether struggling in the kitchen or writing a topical peacecock, I always have one ear cocked to Radio 4. What other service gives such extensive coverage of the arts as Kaleidoscope or the immediacy of Today, a programme that sets you up with all you need to know for the next 24 hours?

But, passionate devotee though I am, I have a complaint to which, I hope, the BBC's new chairman, Stuart Young, will address himself: repeats.

I have always accepted that The Archers has to be repeated, in fact three times in all. But now, increasingly evoking a scream, a shout of "Not again" and a flick of the off-switch, the practice is being extended to other programmes that formerly went out once only.

During the silly season especially, I suppose, impoverished planners have to paper over the odd hour or two at bargain basement prices. But can that really justify editing Richard Baker's entertaining Start the Week on Monday morning and broadcasting it again the same evening?

Robert Robinson's irritating vehicle for the opinionated, Stop the Week - thankfully off the air for the moment - is repeated only four hours after its first transmission on Saturday evenings to ensure that we don't miss any crumb of its perpetual demolition of everything from gardening to old-fashioned good manners.

Plays are endlessly repeated, though the intervals are much longer. Often a play strikes a familiar but disconnected note in the memory; phrases float around in the recesses of the mind trying vainly to be placed. But all is revealed at the end when the announcer tells us that the play was last broadcast in 1976 or 1981 or 1965.

Concerts share the same fate, although music by its very nature is one long repeat, so it is far less obtrusive. It is repeats involving words that really nag.

The repeat cycle at its most devastating can begin on Monday with an extract from the programme devoted to what's in store for us during the coming week. There will be the programme itself and its repeat, then perhaps another dose in Margaret Howard's Pick of the Week on Friday evening - with a repeat on Saturday morning. Add to this sections used as trailers and one can be hearing either a whole programme or chunks of it up to eight or nine times within seven days. Then, of course, there are the programmes devoted to recycling old material. The BBC archives have

proved to be a goldmine for every variety of reruns. There is straight comedy like the present Sunday lunchtime replays of shows mostly from the 1960s and early 1970s. Joyous in their heyday, they now do a positive disservice to Kenneth Horne, Kenneth Williams and Betty Marsden, their mainstays. Time has moved on so much that their topical



allusions are as remote as those in The Shoemaker's Holiday.

But the archive offers much more than that to the purveyors of nostalgia. With judicious editing and the addition of a commentary, "new" programmes can be created from dusty old recordings. The voices of the great can be cobbled into radio portraits and the vanished worlds of music hall or musical comedy made to live again.

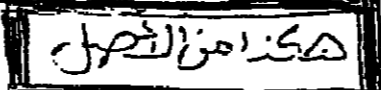
It would be interesting to have the statistics on repeats. Is it my imagination or have they increased dramatically in the past five years?

And with the BBC's diminishing resources, where will it lead? At the moment it looks as though Radio 4 could become one gigantic feast of repeats, apart from the News; and I sometimes suspect there must be regrets at Broadcasting House that even this cannot be repeated.

Perhaps it could be. After all old news is safer; its disasters no longer devastate, its threats no longer ruffe.

And why not repeat old weather reports? The same applies to them. In fact, why not give over a whole wavelength to repeats and provide more time on Radio 4 for something new? It might be less frustrating in the end for planners and listeners alike.

Then, of course, there are the programmes devoted to recycling old material. The BBC archives have





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

WORRIED NEIGHBOURS

Mexico is more important to the United States than Israel, the whole of the Middle East, and probably Europe too. That importance may not be recognized explicitly tomorrow when President Reagan meets President Miguel de la Madrid in La Paz. Their discussions, it is said, will concern developments in Central America. Behind those discussions, however, there is a tacit acceptance that the fate of the two countries has become even more interwoven, so that both would suffer from any continuous disagreement over what to do in Central America.

Unfortunately that disagreement already exists in a form which may not allow resolution. The view from Washington is that developments in Central America could ultimately subvert Mexico. The Mexicans resent this attitude as one more manifestation of American paternalism. However, American suspicion of Mexican stability is long standing and well founded in view of recent Mexican developments - the scale of its problems and the unpredictable and mysterious nature of its politics. The collapse of Mexican stability, leading to insurrection, revolution, or just a prolonged period of economic and social disintegration cannot feature in any exchange of courtesies between the presidents, but it features in the minds of American policy-makers.

The effect on the United States of such a collapse in Mexico would be very serious. The two countries share a common frontier of 1600 miles. Their economies are similarly bound together. The United States is Mexico's main trading partner, the destination and source for more than three-quarters of Mexico's trade. Mexico has replaced the Middle East as the principal foreign source of American oil, while the United States in turn supplies Mexico with 82 per cent of its imports. There is an estimated \$7 billion

of direct US investment in Mexico.

So, regardless of geo-politics, the United States has considerable vested interest in the performance of the Mexican economy. Washington has watched with justifiable concern the mismanagement of that economy by the last President, and the difficult stabilization programme of President de la Madrid. The Mexicans, for their part, can legitimately claim that the performance of the US economy has a critical impact on their own through the rise in interest rates which costs Mexico \$700m for each percentage point rise, given Mexico's need to service its huge international debt.

The Cuban revolution has already caused hundreds of thousands of refugees to flee to the United States. Social disintegration in El Salvador and Nicaragua has now created a new exodus of refugees to Southern Mexico and the United States. Today's difficulties would be tiny compared to the massive upheaval across the US-Mexican border should Mexico's indefensible polity start to disintegrate under the pressure of Cuban-inspired subversion spreading from Central America, and the strain of economic austerity at home.

Last year the United States received nearly 900,000 illegal immigrants across the border from Mexico. Legal crossings each year now exceed 200,000,000. The border is not controllable. Moreover, a Mexican Government dedicated to mischief-making could aggravate its relations with the United States by laying claim to territory beyond its border with as legitimate a basis for the claim as the Argentine one to the Falklands - in other words juridically questionable, but rhetorically popular in Latin America.

It is symptomatic of the Mexican unwillingness to share Washington's concern for these

matters that the Mexican Government prefers to maintain the status quo on the border, even though it festers in their bilateral relations. Mexicans seem to consider that it is a necessary safety valve within Mexico, to allow a sufficient number of its citizens to escape their social and economic difficulties by illegal emigration to the United States. That does not say much for Mexico's self-confidence in its future capacity to manage its own society in the face of further infection from Central America.

The trouble with Mexico is that the presidential system introduced with the 1917 Constitution does not provide for any real popular participation in presidential politics other than in the most formal sense of regular elections. The President is elected without having to reveal either his policies or the base of his political support. It is true that Mexico has avoided the military intervention that has characterized the rest of Latin America, but the health of this secretive, unpredictable and inherently arbitrary system of leadership cannot be taken for granted in the face of the sustained instability of most other countries in the region.

Under the influence of oil revenues the State has become more centralized in its planning. Mexico's leaders are more technocratic and less populist. That might augur well for the management of its economy in terms which would find favour with the IMF. But the nightmare for some Washington officials is that Mexico's technocrats will discover that they are out of touch with the scale of disaffection in the rural areas of their country as were the Shah's managers in Iran. It cannot be pleasant for Washington policy makers to visualize a future for the United States sharing a common frontier with a neighbour of 73 million inhabitants vulnerable to such political volatility.

VOTING WITH THEIR WALLETS

It is not simply because it is fair (though it is) that Mr Norman Tebbit intends to give trade union members the right by law to decide, through a compulsory ballot, whether or not their union should have a political fund. The object behind the ballot is also the political one of quickening the decline of the Labour Party, and perhaps also assisting the realignment of the left in a way that makes it more responsive to Labour's traditional voters, and also more conducive to political stability.

To this end, Mr Tebbit intends to write a firm and early date for the first ballot on the political fund into his forthcoming trade union bill, though no firm date will be given for the more complex change of ballots or union governing bodies. Unions will be obliged by law to ask their rank-and-file whether here should be a political fund, and to put this question within a year after the bill has received the Royal Assent, which is expected to be between April and June of next year.

If the ballot had not been held by the given date, the existence of the fund would be illegal and Conservative trade unionists could, and would, challenge it in the courts. The virtual certainty that it could be successfully challenged, and the fact that it is an entirely open question how trade unionists would vote nowadays explain why the ballot is realistic as well as fair. For in one sense this is an exercise in political expediency, it also meets the changed facts of public life.

Twenty years ago, even ten, no Conservative government would have contemplated imposing a ballot on political funds because they would have known that it would have been fair, then as now it would have been reasonable to be sceptical about figures which suggest that in some unions practically the whole of the membership want to pay the political levy. Everyone knew then, as now, that some unions

have their ways of making contracting out very difficult. But even so, until very recently, such a ballot would never have separated the majority of trade unionists from Labour, which they regarded as their own party, whatever its faults. Ballots on political funds would merely have registered the solidity of individual trade unionists support for Labour.

Now it is self-evidently different. Increasingly, trade union leaders do not properly represent their ordinary members, and the voting figures for the Conservative and Alliance parties show the decline of trade unionist loyalty to Labour. The system by which union leaders can affiliate to the Labour Party as many millions of their members as they have funds to buy votes with, and use those votes to swing Labour policy to the left, is clearly a political abuse. The system was always theoretically unfair but that did not matter when trade unionists fully supported the way in which their money was used. Now it is questionable how far they do and it is right for them to have the chance to say. They can still vote for a political fund (which will be used to support Labour) if they wish, and for the time being, almost certainly, the great majority of unions still will.

To make the change fair, Mr Tebbit ought to act in precisely the same way to ensure that shareholders of companies periodically sanction gifts to political parties, in practice the Tories. The majority of shareholders will still probably approve such donations, certainly so long as Labour poses a threat to the private sector. So far it does not seem that Whitehall has been set to work to determine how this should be done, but the knives flown by Mr Tebbit and Mr Cecil Parkinson that they are prepared to act on companies' political donations ought to be followed up.

The immediate purpose of the ballot is to put a stop to the automatic provision which en-

ables union leaders to use their members' funds as 18th century political patrons used their rotten boroughs, whether the majority of their members like it or not. The fact that the consequences of the ballot are largely unpredictable is itself a justification for the change. The bill will only require each member to be asked whether he or she supports a political fund. It will not require them to be asked which party that fund should support. But there is no reason why unions should not put that question also, and there may be increasing pressure on some to do so.

Though the bill is only concerned with the automaticity of funding, behind it lies the further thought that the ballot may assist the rise of the SDP in place of Labour. Before the election the Conservatives were reluctant to say or do anything that might promote the SDP for fear that it might harm them and bring a hung parliament. But the election has established that the Alliance mainly takes votes from Labour, and as Labour's post-election decline and leftwards swing have quickened, more defections seem likely and the chances of an augmented SDP replacing Labour have entered the realm of the possible.

Some ministers at least have therefore come to see the desirability of this in order that the free and mixed society which Mrs Thatcher seeks to establish should not be overthrown, and they would be happy to see the SDP swap places with Labour by the next election. However, the ballot for union funds assures the SDP of nothing. Though it could eventually bring the new party some support its virtue is that it is a permissive bill, and it will be fascinating to see what use some unions (the white-collar ASTMS, or the electricians) make of it. It cannot be wrong to give them a chance of a little more say over what happens to their money now that a wholly new question hangs over politics and their true opinions.

and that we cease to import such a high proportion of manufactured goods. This will not be achieved by merely adjusting taxes and interest rates, so what is to be done? Hitherto the Government has always said that it cannot create jobs but will create the conditions for industry to provide employment. On this policy the Government should be looking for answers to these three questions rather than trying to pinpoint particular job opportunities. Yours faithfully, D. A. BELL, 87 East End, Wallington, Beverley, North Humberside, August 5.

Paid jobs for all
From Professor D. A. Bell
Sir, It does not need high-powered research to answer this question in general terms. Some could be traditional jobs if traditional economic activity revives. Some will arise in the development of "new technology", but these will be predominantly for those with intellectual skills: it was acknowledged in a December, 1984, White Paper (A New Training Initiative: A Programme for Action, Cmnd 8455) that jobs will be more plentiful at the level of technician and above than below. The historical trend, which is already visible in other countries besides the UK, is

A better deal for those on remand

From Ms Jill Cove
Sir, The news item by Peter Evans (August 4) on the plight of remand prisoners must surely give rise to a number of questions in the minds of all caring people.

Many of these remand prisoners will eventually be acquitted of the charges against them, or, if convicted, will be dealt with by non-custodial sentences. They will have no opportunity to claim compensation for the degrading treatment received whilst on remand.

To allow remand prisoners to remain in police cells, where conditions are even more cramped, unhygienic and de-humanising than prisons, is nothing if not intolerable. To learn that some are manacled together during their 15 minutes' exercise is even more atrocious. The £1.4m that has been spent during the first two months of this financial year could and should have been reallocated to provide more bail accommodation, not only in hostels administered by the Probation Service, but also those run by the voluntary organisations.

Sentences should be reminded again of the need for a presumption for granting bail, even though many seem to accept police opposition to bail without apparent question. Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, has gone on record as saying that he is determined to stop the use of police cells to house remand prisoners by the end of the year. So far, there has been no evidence of a proposal as to how this will happen. In any case, members of this association believe that four months is too long to wait.

Yours faithfully,
JILL COVE, Vice-Chairman, National Association of Probation Officers, 3/4 Chivalry Road, Battersea, SW11, August 4.

Parents and Pill

From Dr David Cowper
Sir, I have read your leading article, entitled "Parents and the Pill" (July 27) and found that you put forward both sides of the discussion cogently, but I do not think the writer can have been a doctor who has been directly faced with a request for contraception from a girl who is under the age of sixteen.

Firstly, I would say that in my own experience it is a relatively rare occurrence. Usually by the time someone of this age group asks for contraception they have already been sexually active. There are a smaller minority who take "the pill" merely to keep up with their peer group and are not sexually active. In the past I have delivered more than one 13-year-old of her first baby, and a 14-year-old of her second baby. I admit that these types of confinement are rare, but are never the less traumatic for all concerned, including the doctor.

I would suggest that prescribing contraception to sexually active girls could more profitably be construed as good preventive medicine. As far as I know there is no published evidence which shows that a girl or young woman using an oral contraceptive is therefore more liable to be promiscuous.

I think Mrs Gillick would have a justifiable case if she could show that doctors are actively persuading their younger female patients to use contraception against the wishes of the patient. I do not believe that any of my colleagues are adopting this type of behaviour.

It appears that girls who are sexually active early in their lives often come from homes where communication within the family has been poor, or has broken down. I believe that having legal sanctions to back up parents would almost certainly limit discussion within the family even more. It might also act as a lure for physically mature, but emotionally immature adolescents, on the basis that "forbidden fruit" are often more tempting and challenging. Yours faithfully, DAVID COWPER, 33 Chavert Avenue, S.W.15.

First Jewish MP

From Mr Alan Searle
Sir, With all due deference to Mr Stephen Shick's letter (August 1), it would nevertheless seem that the first Jewish MP, at least to fulfil his duties, albeit with rather unusual results, was Sir David Salomons, sometime Lord Mayor of London.

He was elected as a Liberal member for Greenwich in 1851, taking his seat and voting in the House without being sworn in the statutory way, for which offence he was fined £500. Yours sincerely, ALAN SEARLE, 67 Fitzgibbon Road, E11.

A Nicaraguan treaty

From Mr Frank Griffith Dawson
Sir, The letter from Mr Jeremy Corbyn, MP, and others (August 1) concludes that Britain has a responsibility to find a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis. Their argument would have been more effective had they identified with greater precision the grounds upon which that responsibility rests.

During the eighteenth century English colonists settled along the Caribbean coastline of Honduras and Nicaragua, where they were shielded from Spanish attack by the fierce Mosquito Indians. Even after the settlements were abandoned in 1786, English traders from Belize continued to cultivate the Mosquito friendship.

In 1842 Mosquito King Robert Charles Frederick died, leaving a will appointing the Belize Superintendent Regent of his kingdom during the minority of his heir.

Striking a balance in medical needs

From the President of the Institute of Health Service Administrators
Sir, Your well informed leader, "Balance sheet of medicine" (August 4), rightly drew attention to the need for more truth and frankness by both Government and health authorities in considering how to meet growing demands in times of increasing financial stringency.

More and more the debate ought to be about alternative priorities and standards of care, not about clever ways to balance the books or meet the centrally imposed manpower targets.

None the less, it is important that the public know the full extent of what you rightly describe as the developments which have been taking the NHS since the election. While there has been a good deal of debate on the possible effects of the recent financial cuts (£140m in the current year), it is still not known whether they are to be recurring, but health authorities are increasingly fearing the worst and planning accordingly.

In addition, substantial NHS manpower reduction targets were announced just before the parliamentary recess and so far these have received very little public attention.

Health authorities are currently considering how best to meet a total staff reduction of 6,000 to 8,000 from the position last March, by next April. While just under one per cent of the total NHS labour force, this is an excessive reduction required by the financial cuts: it has to be achieved in under six months, despite low current staff turnover and anticipated strong trade union resistance and will detract from the efforts being made by NHS man-

agers to find the most cost-effective solutions.

As your leader points out, the targets increase central control, despite the Government's stated aim for the recent reorganisation "to ensure that as many decisions as possible are taken by local health authorities" (Patients First, HMSO, 1979). The targets could produce the ludicrous effect of authorities paying out more, either to their own staff who, while reduced in number, will earn more by increases in bonus or overtime payments to cover the work, or to contractors, not because they are cheaper, but because they employ staff who will not count against the authorities' targets.

In either case the net effect will be less resources for patient services and already some authorities are postponing priority developments for which they have the funds, while others may have to reduce services further than they need to keep within their cash limits.

The NHS is used to living with financial uncertainty and has consistently improved its productivity. NHS managers understand that they may well have to operate with fewer resources while continuing to develop agreed priority services. They are more likely to do so, without resorting to the Whips Cross type of restrictive solution, if they are allowed to develop their own most cost-effective plans without constant fluctuations in the resource assumptions and arbitrary central controls. Yours faithfully, R. M. NICHOLLS, President, The Institute of Health Service Administrators, 75 Portland Place, W1.

Harvest of change

From Lord Walston
Sir, It is not time to stop trying to pin solely on farmers the blame for changes in the countryside? Can we not face the fact that the whole of England, rural and urban, is passing through a period of rapid change, some of it unwelcome to one minority group or another, but most of it bringing benefit to the majority?

There are many things that I, as a relatively prosperous countryman, might regret. My nearest town, Cambridge, is very different from what it was when I was young. Old buildings have disappeared and been replaced by large, and usually ugly, office blocks. Small shops and cheerful shopkeepers have gone, and instead are impersonal supermarkets and chain stores. Cars can no longer park in uncluttered streets, but must go to multi-storey car parks.

The village, that I have known all my life, is twice the size it was 40 years ago. Cottages formerly lived in by farm workers and their families are now, enlarged and modernized, the homes of commuters or retired people from far away. Paddockes where a few cows used to graze are now sites for bungalows. Ponds and

water courses regularly dry up in the summer because of water extraction for the use of distant towns.

Others, less fortunate than I, suffer from motor-ways or by-passes bisecting their land or running within yards of their formerly peaceful gardens. Some have airports on their doorsteps. All these things, like modern farming methods, noisy bird scarers (far less noisy than motor-bikes), continue working late at night (but never more than two or three times a year), are essential parts of a dynamic scene. They bring annoyance and sadness to some, usually the comfortably-off and middle-aged or elderly.

But even to these people, and still more to millions who are less fortunate, they have brought the prosaic advantages of running water, indoor sanitation, ease of access to different and lovely scenery - and an assured supply of food, the cost of which has risen less than that of most of the other things on which we spend our money.

Yours truly, WALSTON, Town's End Springs, Thripolow, Hertfordshire, August 10.

Criminal evidence

From Sir David Napley
Sir, Mr Douglas Hurd's carefully phrased answer (August 2) to my letter (July 20), will simply not do. There may be a basic Home Office circular to the police recommending that scientific findings, having a bearing on the case, should be made available by the police to the defence, but in 46 years' experience of criminal justice I cannot recall a single case in which it has so far happened.

Mr Hurd asserts that in summary trials the results of an examination of the prosecution's clothes to use in evidence are supplied to the defence. Apart from certificates as to excess alcohol in drink driving cases this is not correct. It has been the procedure for many years, under the Magistrates Courts Act, for copies of statements to be supplied in advance of the committal proceedings. This has nothing to do with the laboratories and the preparation of cases for the scientific statements are so worded or edited that the matters which may assist the defence are not generally self-evident.

The Attorney General's guidelines for cases to be tried on indictment are relatively new. Unhappily, up to this stage nothing has been guided in my direction in any case with which I have been concerned.

If the Home Office desire to achieve justice why must these recommendations be made to the police? Why cannot the defence have direct access to the laboratories without going through the police? Why are the scientific laboratories not made independent of the police?

Finally, why does Mr Hurd think it entirely reasonable that a Home Office scientist is not allowed to consider, and give evidence in regard to, a specimen which has been the subject of report by another Home Office scientist? Scientists, including the laboratories, make mistakes and often form a different opinion on scientific artefacts.

If justice is the objective why is it reasonable to prevent a different scientific Government laboratory, from being presented to the Court? Yours truly, DAVID NAPLEY, 107-115 Long Acre, WC2, August 2.

Theatre museum

From Mrs Jack Emery
Sir, Mr Hodsman (August 6) refers to cultural activities and the heritage as an optional extra to be paid for only when the nation has already paid for its defence, education, health and social welfare. In so doing, he perpetrates a fundamentally erroneous view of national priorities and one that does much harm to the arts.

The claims of all components in our national life must legitimately exist side by side. It is the interplay between them that defines the character of British society at any one time. And the values of that society are continually expressed

and challenged in what we call "the arts," our traditions of literature and criticism, of music and the visual and performance arts.

The idea that the storing of "theatrical ephemera" is crucial to the national interest is easily ridiculed. So can a consignment of bedspans or a delivery of ground sheets. That is to miss the larger point of national cultural identity.

What price education with no new writers or playwrights? What price health and welfare with no sustaining cultural values? What price defence when there's nothing left to defend? Yours faithfully, JOAN BAKEWELL, 20 Chalcot Square, NW1.

Making a charge for forecasts

From Sir Henry Smith
Sir, The leading article in today's Times (August 10) headed "Everybody's weather," reminds me of a period many years ago when we gave much thought to the underlying problem. I then occupied a post in the Air Ministry.

The basic dilemma is this: the Meteorological Office, at considerable cost, produces an "output" which is both non-material and, for the most part, of ephemeral value. Information, the sensible thing to do is to spend more money, if necessary, to ensure that the effort has not been wasted: to see that the information is used as widely as is economically and socially profitable.

It was not easy to convert these principles into practice. As far as I can remember, we decided that the general output of the Met Office should be freely available to all and that every help should be given to the press and broadcasting authorities to disseminate it as widely as possible; and that only where special arrangements had to be made to meet an industrial or commercial requirement should a charge be levied.

On this basis it would be wrong, I think, to seek by whatever means to raise a charge against members of the public who ask questions by telephone and thus assist forecasters to make better use of their expensively-acquired ephemeral information. Yours faithfully, H. T. SMITH, 130 Wantage Road, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, August 10.

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Attlee's Korean policy

From Professor Alan Thompson
Sir, General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley's lucid article today (Special Report, July 27) on the Korean war clearly makes his forthcoming book on the subject obligatory reading for all students of postwar political, military and economic history. I would add only one observation to his treatment of the British involvement in this war. This was the crucial role of the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee.

His decisive leadership in the Cabinet led to the immediate despatch of two battalions (two months ahead of our promised brigade group) to defend the Naktong river where, as Sir Anthony points out, a brave and skillful North Korean force was on the verge of breaking through. As a young Labour parliamentary candidate in 1950 I knew something of the intense opposition to Mr Attlee's stand from within his own party. Throughout all this pressure and manoeuvring, Mr Attlee remained cool, consistent and determined. The fury of his opponents, at party conferences and elsewhere, failed to move this quiet, implacable man from his chosen course of action.

Mr Attlee did not believe that the problems of Asia could be solved by military victory. Furthermore, his experience at Gallipoli in the First War left him with no illusions as to the sufferings and sacrifices of war. As far as the South Korean regime was concerned he never believed that Mr Syngman Rhee was a reincarnation of Abraham Lincoln or a dedicated reader of John Stuart Mill's essay On Liberty. He also had grave misgivings (as did President Truman) about General MacArthur.

What he did know, however (from the tragedy of Eastern Europe) was that under Stalin, a larger army threatened the world. His prompt despatch of a military force helped to avert this threat. In domestic political terms, Mr Attlee's achievement was outstanding. He committed the Labour Party firmly to a policy of collective security against aggression and gave it new confidence in its role in world affairs. Yours faithfully, ALAN THOMPSON, 11 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh, July 27.

Missing the point

From Mr John Bennett
Sir, Like Mr Yorke (August 9) I have noticed many new opportunities afforded by the absence of punctuation on signs. Many farms in the Home Counties now offer the chance to "Pick your own car park".

In truth, the comma has merely been redeployed as an apostrophe. For example, at Glasgow Central station a list (without commas) of stations served includes Milton Keynes. Yours faithfully, JOHN BENNETT, 97 Woodlands Avenue, Wansley, E11, August 9.

Intimations of mortality

From Mr M. O. Carruthers
Sir, "Those socks," observed my wife, eyeing first the pair I was wearing and then my nether regions, "are on their last legs!"

Yours sincerely, M. O. CARRUTHERS, Fisherman's Creek, Pillory Hill, Noss Mayo, Plymouth, August 1.

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COURT AND SOCIAL

SOCIAL NEWS

Princess Anne will attend the Royal Counties Veterinary Association's centenary dinner at the Castle Hotel, Windsor, on November 15.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. G. S. Calcutt and Miss N. J. Thornton. The engagement is announced between Christopher, only son of Mr Patrick Calcutt and the late Mrs Joan Calcutt, of Sutton, Essex, Hampshire, and Nicola, eldest daughter of Mr Robert Thornton, of Chew Stoke, Avon, and the late Mrs Joan Thornton.

Mr W. H. J. Maidens and Miss V. L. Giddins. The engagement is announced between William Henry John, elder son of Mr and Mrs A. L. Maidens, of South County, Surrey, and Victoria Louise, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P. S. Giddins, of Magdalen Down Farm, near Hailsham, co. Sussex.

Mr J. R. J. Sernberg and Miss A. M. White. The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Mr and Mrs A. R. Sernberg, of Great Houghton, Northampton, and Anona, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. H. White, of Maddybenny, Colchester.

Mr N. R. Sharp and Miss F. L. Eliopoulos. The engagement is announced between Nicholas Robin, son of Mr and Mrs R. Y. C. Sharp, of Wickham, Hampshire, and Diane France Louise Eliopoulos, of New York, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Eliopoulos, of Paris.

Marriage

The Hon Julian Gibson-Watt and Mrs Wallace-Clifford. The marriage took place quietly in London yesterday of the Hon Julian Gibson-Watt, eldest son of Lord and Lady Gibson-Watt, of Doldowlod, Wales, and Mrs Marie-Therese Wallace-Clifford, daughter of Mr and Mrs Amos Wallace-Clifford and daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael McQuade, of Newarhill, Lanarkshire.

Latest appointments. Mr Jack Gill to be Secretary of the Export Credit Guarantee Department, in succession to Mr Kenneth Taylor, who retires at the end of September.

Service dinner. RAF Binbrook. A guest night was held last night at RAF Binbrook to dine out departing officers. Group Captain R. L. Barclay was the principal speaker and Squadron Leader T. M. Holloway presided.

Jumble bargain. Two Japanese prints found tucked inside a book were sold at Phillips in Edinburgh yesterday for £3,600. The book had been bought for about £1 at a Scottish jumble sale.

Latest wills. Garside, Mrs Edith May, of Hampton, Middlesex, £459,840. Haslam, Mr Frederick Henry Thomas, of Wollaton, Nottingham, £246,828.

electronics Education Programme in Bristol on November 21. Princess Anne will dine with east and present officers of the 14th, 20th King's Hussars at the Cavalry and Guards Club on November 21. Princess Anne will attend the annual presentation of medals and certificates to nurses at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street on November 22.

Birthdays. TODAY: Dame Elizabeth Adcock, 72; Miss Sheila Armstrong, 41; Air Marshal Sir Michael Beavis, 54; Sir John Bunting, 65; Vice-Admiral Sir Henry Burrell, 70; Sir E. Moore Croxall, 70; Mr A. P. Firth, 55; Air Vice-Marshal K. V. Garside, 70; Mr R. D. Jackson, 38; Major Sir Rennie Maudslay, 68; Lord Oram, 70; Sir James Richards, 76; Lord Saintsbury, 81; Dr F. Sanger, CH, 65; Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Smallwood, 65.

TOMORROW: Major-General J. W. Channing-Williams, 75; Mr P. W. Daniels, 102; Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Dawson, 79; Sir David Evans, 90; Dr H. Montgomery Hyde, 76; Dom Philip Jebb, 51; Professor Sir Andrew Kay, 67; Lord Mishcon, 68; Sir James Pitman, Mr Frederick Raphael, 52; Lady Sastryling, 75; Mr Feliks Topolski, 71; Sir Charles Villiers, 71; Lord Whaddon, 56; Mr Sydney Wooderson, 60.

Church news. Appointments. The Rev G. Atkinson, Rector of St John the Baptist, Worcester, to be Vicar of St Barnabas, Dudley, same diocese.

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Politics of the Magnificat

Kenneth Leech

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, celebrated throughout most of the Christian world on Monday, is not a feast to arouse wild enthusiasms among English Christians. In fact, the dogma of the Assumption is a development of Christ of the Resurrection. As Christ is the first fruits of the harvest of the dead, so his Mother, the God-bearer, is raised up to share in the risen life of the glorified Body of Christ. As in the Resurrection of Christ, so in the Assumption of Mary, it is the whole personality, the soma, which is raised.



The Duke of Devonshire's party preparing for the first day of grouse shooting yesterday at Bolton Abbey. From left: Lord Tollemache, Mr Richard Beckett, the Earl of Burlington (kneeling), the Marquess of Cholmondeley, the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Lord Vestey, Eddie Tennant (with dog), Sir Martyn Beckett, the Marquess of Hartington and the Hon Toby Tennant. (Photograph: John Voos).

Dunvegan echoes to pipers' fine lament

Ten pipers competed on Thursday night in Dunvegan Castle in the seventeenth MacCrimmon Memorial Pibroch recital for the silver chanter. The event was instituted by the late Dame Flora Macleod of Macleod in commemoration of the silver chanter said to have been presented to the Macleods' piper by a fairy in the sixteenth century.

Percy Thrower wins again, reluctantly

Mr Percy Thrower yesterday won Shrewsbury Flower Show's supreme award for the fifth successive year. The retired Shrewsbury parks superintendent and broadcaster drew the ultimate accolade from the judges who said his display of flowers, made up of a million blooms, had 'surpassed all previous displays'.

OBITUARY

LORD WIGG: Controversial commitment to security and Army affairs



Lord Wigg, PC, who died in London on August 11 at the age of 82, was an active figure in politics for many years, and reached the peak of his influence during the period from 1964 to 1967, when he was Paymaster-General in the governments of Mr Harold Wilson, as he then was.

PROFESSOR F. J. DANIELS

Professor Frank James Daniels, Professor Emeritus of Japanese in the University of London, died in his home on August 9 at the age of 83. He had retired from his post at the London School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in 1967.

MR PERCY DALTON

Mr Percy Dalton who died at his home in Jersey on August 9, at the age of 75, began working life as his teens selling fruit and vegetables from a barrow off the Commercial Road in London.

Services tomorrow: Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

- ST PAUL'S, Trinity, Prince Consort Road, London: 10.30, 11.30, 12.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. Rev G. H. Jones, 12.40.
ST ALBANS, Holywell, 9.30, 11.00, 11.30, 12.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. Rev G. H. Jones, 12.40.ST BARTHOLOMEW, THE GREAT, 10.30, 11.30, 12.30, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30. Rev G. H. Jones, 12.40.

spurred Wilson on to press for further inquiry. He shrewdly advocated that Labour should concentrate on the security aspect of the affair, rather than that of sexual morality, and that strategy served the party well.

Wigg was also a master of parliamentary tactics. He had a delight in filibustering, he loved to sabotage motions, and he knew how to create confusion with shouts of "Object" or "I spy Strangers".

Testing our daily rhythms

The daily rhythm of our physical and mental activities is regulated by two separate biological clocks, recent research has shown. In normal life our internal clocks run with the same period because they are reset every 24 hours by external events.

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سكزامن الأصل

THE ARTS

Television

Basic humours by accident

The first of four comics to explore the roots of his humour in the new series Comic Roots on BBC 1, Michael Palin of the Monty Python team, traced its beginnings back to a father who used to place fake dog messes on the carpet shortly before guests were expected. Palin's sense of humour as a child was similarly basic. His best friend's parents recalled that his favourite job was to be a lavatory attendant, and that some of the rhymes he made up were rather rude. His old geography master, who obviously hadn't heard them, remembered him as "a clever boy, quiet, not humorous really - but of course we didn't have that kind of humour in those days, did we?"

Travelling back to his adolescence in Sheffield, the point came across through reminiscences with old friends of how accidental a comedian's career is. If he had not been invited to join an amateur dramatic group by a colleague at the steelworks he had gone into after failing his Cambridge interview... if he had not then gone to Oxford and struck up a comic partnership with Robert Hewison (now

with The Sunday Times) would he have realized his talent for this elusive art?

WEEKEND CHOICE

A Complex Heart (tomorrow, BBC 2, 8.10pm), an essay on Gustave Flaubert by Julian Barnes, embellished with lustrous pictures by the cameraman John Else, is all the better for its lively rejection of the academic approach. Flaubert the man is here as powerfully as Flaubert the writer. And so strongly is he here in Mr Barnes's commentary that, with all due respect to the actor Richard Bebb who is got up to look like Flaubert and confides quotations to the camera to considerable dramatic effect, Mr Barnes is really the only other living person whose presence on screen is indispensable. If, as Mr Barnes assures us, Flaubert is the literary icon to which he has referred since he was 15, then he does not prostrate himself before his idol. Rather, he views the icon with a respectful, ironic eye ("Graham Greene has referred to the writer's need to have a chip of ice at the bottom of his heart. Sometimes, Flaubert seems to have a whole refrigerator down there."). And there is an irresistible final flourish in Mr Barnes's reminder that, on

the site of the house where Madame Bovary was written, a paper factory now stands. Not, however, for making toilet paper.

The 20th Century Remembered (tonight, BBC 2, 8.30pm) is the third - and, so far, the best - extract from Kenneth Harris's four-part interview with Dean Rusk, the former American Secretary of State. It could hardly have been otherwise, for it takes in not only the Cuban missile crisis when we tottered on the brink of the Third World War (Mr Rusk puts it better when he talks about Washington and Moscow looking down the cannon's mouth and not liking what they saw), but also the assassin's bullet that ended the Kennedy "Camelot" years, and, above all, the Americans' involvement in Vietnam. Away from the scene of conflict, Mr Rusk talks interestingly about the world's debt to Britain for its pioneering work on the notions of liberty under law and the imposition of constitutional restraints on the exercise of power.

Peter Davaile

Radio

No appetite for Main Course

"Good God," we said, "What's this?" The day was last Saturday, the time soon after 8.30 pm and we had just switched on the car radio in an attempt to ease an endless journey down the length of the M4. We found ourselves in the opening minutes of what was plainly a Saturday Night Theatre and one in which the early indications were unpromising. The reasons for this soon took shape. The dialogue strove for sharpness and did not quite make it; actors, well aware of falling short, pushed their lines accordingly. The quality of the writing sounded even worse than it was. There emerged the outline of a rather forced story about a lady running a cordon bleu home catering service whose impact on the lives of her clients extended beyond the gastro-intestinal tract. I now see that the note of effortful desperation in the dialogue was occasioned by its attempt (like a pair of ill-inflated water-wings) to keep this none too buoyant frame afloat. By now, mercifully, my front seat passenger had fallen asleep, but the other, I am well aware, was listening with growing disbelief and I found myself blushing for those high standards of radio drama in defence of which I have more than once bent his ear. We stopped at Membury service area and the sound died with the engine followed by muttered impressions from the back seat. When we set off again, no one suggested that we broke the now blessed radio silence. On Sunday morning I referred to the Radio Times and found we had been listening to a rather well cast programme from Bristol: Madam Main Course by Peter Terson (director, Shaun MacLoughlin). Had I known of the author and the actors while I listened, might I not have done a little bending over backwards to find virtue? Almost certainly. Dramatic honour was redeemed by Gilly Fraser's Somewhere Else (Radio 4, Aug 1 and 7); director, Kay Patrick (in Manchester); a play set in a not too distant future and in the wake of some catastrophe - probably a major explosion at Windscale - referred to as The Accident. It was plain that Britain had become a kind of police state with labour camps, extermination centres for blacks and other such trimmings. The play's strength lay in the fact that this very nasty situation (from which a poisoned sea precluded escape to the "some-

where else" of the title) was seen obliquely through the eyes of a small group of dissenters and drop-outs sheltering in a disused railway station; its characteristics had to be inferred from their speech and behaviour. Certainly this, together with a marvellous sound treatment of passing trains, made for a superb evocation of a society fallen into tyranny and despair. Indeed its power may be judged from the fact that it survived an overly symbolic final scene in which the dissenter dressed as an old style lollipop lady (emblem of care for the young) buried herself into the path of a train bearing unsuspecting black children to their deaths.

The point of Anthony Smith's talk series, High Street Africa Revisited (Radio 4, Sundays) was that it described countries on which a fate rather like that depicted in Somewhere Else had already descended. Smith, accompanied by his son, Adam, retraced in reverse a motorcycle journey which he undertook alone in 1955 from Capetown to Cairo. Yes, he was 28 years younger; yes, memory may have undergone its customary gilding, but it doesn't sound to me as if 28 years from now and with all the gilding in the world, Smith Minor will be recalling this first half of their journey from Cairo via the Sudan and Uganda to Nairobi as anything but a bit of a nightmare. In Uganda, once a sort of paradise, the trigger-happy military still bully travellers with road blocks, threats and extortion; drivers skirt unexplained corpses lying in the roads and nobody except the military asks any questions. Come back, British Empire, all is forgiven.

Well nearly all: The Fall of the Kingdom of Oude by Gerald Roberts (Radio 4, Aug 9; director, John Cardy) related the events surrounding Lord Dalhousie's implacable acquisition of this Indian state for the British Crown in total disregard of the probability - to him unreal - that its people might actually prefer the dissolute, ineffective but at least familiar rule of Wajid Ali Shah to the humiliating efficiency and rapaciousness of the stranger. A workmanlike treatment this, though one, I think, rather put in the shade for anyone who saw what Satyajit Ray did with the same topic in The Chess Players.

David Wade

Cowardice Ambassadors

Once upon a time in the West End, the star-part play was almost a genre in itself. Playwrights often wrote them for spouses: Marion Lorne, Constance Cummings, Hugh Williams.

The trouble is that nowadays you need a little intellectual weight, and preferably social concern, to flesh out the glamour. To give your leading man and whoever is doing the leading lady the chance to preen as Noel Coward and Gertrude Lawrence they have to be unemployed theatre buffs living in a dream world. So, in the theatre where the Master gave a celebrated prompt from his stage-box on the opening night of Hay Fever and fumed when Gingsold and Budgeley went a bit too far in Fallen Angels, Ian McKellen and Janet Suzman now play a brother and sister in a Peckham basement rehearsing a Cowardish play, supposedly dictated by Sir Noel from the grave, with champagne bottles full of supermarket ginger ale.

Theatre A grave mistake

Whereas Boy and Babe, for such these children are called, defend theatre as "magical entertainment", Sir (Nigel Davenport) has marched into the video-taped theatre market and, along with all the old disdain for television that the Ivy, across the road from The Ambassador's, must have been

Promenade Concert

beginning has been a particularly strong cast. Indeed, a performance of the order of Claudio Desderi's Don Magnifico: every tiny gesture of face and voice articulating, and rolling out his smugness, deceit and frustration, argued in itself for the adequacy of straight concert performance. His double act and that of Laurence Dale's Ramiro with Alberto Rinaldi's delightfully dry-pattering Dandini, were little jours de force, while Roderick Kennedy towered physically and vocally as Alidoro. Above all, Kathleen Kuhlmann, her voice clinging, bending and rippling with every turn of Rossini's vocal line, was a radiant Cenerentola. With the London Philharmonic, working hard under Donato Renzetti, she almost magicked us back into that darker, smaller auditorium.

Hilary Finch

hearing for decades, attaches no special importance to great classical roles or the theatre in general.

Janet Mathias, the author, is an actor and how much it shows in this nostalgia for something that many of us love, but not in this way. That, however, is as much point as the play has; that and the related interplay between theatrical fantasy and the reality of meeting fellow-actors in the drole queue, or on shopping trips pilfering sardines. There is even an attempt to carry into Private Lives the squalid world of incontinent old women and a paraplegic squashed by a bus in his wheelchair.

Knowing references abound: Janet Suzman enters drawing about her divorce, from Victor and Maudie's marvellous party, and "On a very clear day you can see Victoria Station" scores double for bouncing off a Coward anecdote as well as the line in Hay Fever that it relates to. Miss Suzman, and how loyal of her to take the part, gets periodic nervous confrontations, the unfunny funny story of the year (about the Queen falling into a pond) and a drily-played finale when she puts on a Beethoven tape and smothers Mr McKellen Desdemona-style. He, on his side, gets a don't-leave-me pathos bit, a nervous breakdown or two, a cigarette holder and some pastiche Coward songs.

Anthony Page gets the director's billing and the question: Why?

Anthony Masters



Ian McKellen, Janet Suzman

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MARKET REPORT

US fears subdue trading

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin Monday. Dealings end, Sept 2. Contango Day, Sept 5. Settlement Day, Sept 12.

appointment and on the thought that he would have to introduce some major plans to beat off Trafalgar House.

Speculation is mounting on whether Associated British Foods is going to spend the £200m it raised by selling off its South African interests.

BET, where Sterling Guaranty holds 4 per cent, also gained another couple of pence to 278p after being at 280p. Optimistic

statements from the chairman this week helped the price.

The reported stock shortages appear to be particularly acute in the insurance sector, after good figures from two of the majors earlier this week.

In lacklustre banks, Standard Chartered featured with a further climb yesterday of 7p to 50p, setting a new 1983 peak ahead of September's figures.

Newcastle held steady at 87p, setting an alleged 1 million shares awaiting sale.

The shares of J & J Makin Paper Mills are worth watching. Though not well known or actively traded, the cash rich group saw its shares jump to a new 1983 peak of 210p on talk of record profits for the year and a possible sale of a share stake.

In the same sector, Group 3 Lotus rose 2p to 52p on return to profitability.

The widely forecast introduction by Boots of a pain-killing drug prompted some profit-taking which knocked down the shares 7p to 161p.

intuition. Contrary to the view, his holding company, Newarthill, does not look like bidding for Weasoe, the engineers, where a 16.5 per cent stake has been built up.

Newarthill has no record of takeover bids, but the 9.5 per cent stake held in UBM, at present under fire from Norcross, will make Newarthill £6.7m at the present bid price.

The reason for the increase in the share price of Prince of Wales Hotels over the last few days became apparent yesterday when it announced a big hotel acquisition from Epicure, which takes an 8.3 per cent stake in return.

A bumper set of figures from Prestige, an extraordinary dividend payment, did wonders for the share price which soared 41p to 230p. A well-kept secret.

A newsletter plug for TACE put another 14p on to the shares at 128p, while Leasons firmed a few pence to 40p on the same basis.

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2,3 Travel: Easy living and shark fishing in the Algarve; balmy days in Sussex; air fare deals; Eating Out, Chinese style

4 Values: Home comforts below deck for the yachtsman; Shopfront; Drink: A new wine list; In the Garden: Propagating

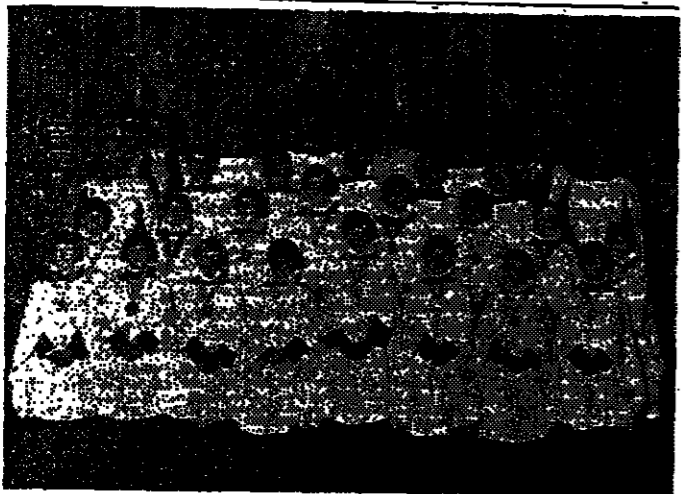
THE TIMES Saturday

5 Review: Paperbacks of the month: Flashman in Indian country, Amis short stories; Preview: Theatre and Galleries

7,8 Critics' choice of Music, Dance and Films; Films on TV; Bridge; Chess; Family Life: A day at the park; and The Week Ahead

13-19 AUGUST 1983 A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE, ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

The Three Choirs festival offers a singular blend of the large and small, old and new. The 256th festival begins next Saturday; Nicholas Kenyon examines its tradition



Merger in the cathedral

WHEN the choir of Worcester, Hereford and Gloucester convenes again in Gloucester Cathedral next Saturday it will be for their 256th festival. In 1902 an eminent musician said: "It seems like adding stone after stone upon a great monument when we attend the Three Choirs Festival year after year." Eighty-one years later, the monument is in danger of toppling over from the sheer weight of its history?

John Sanders, on whom as organist of Gloucester Cathedral the task of planning this year's festival and conducting many of its concerts falls, is sure that the Three Choirs still has a unique place among British festivals: "It's not just that we have such a strong tradition. We have a very special character, being devoted to the performance of choral music. And there's no festival, I think, among all those that have started in the years since the war, that has that emphasis."

"We have a strong amateur involvement in our music-making, because as well as the three cathedral choirs there is the festival chorus, which is not a professional body and rehearses locally. And we manage to avoid the sort of generalized programmes which could be heard anywhere. We are very proud of our record in commissioning new choral works - indeed, if it was not for us, I think new large-scale works for chorus and orchestra would hardly get written these days."

This year's programme is no exception in including a healthy batch of works that will be heard for the first time: the festival has commissioned the completion of a symphony by Elis Pehkonen, (begun for the Stroud Festival); an organ concerto from Charles Camilleri; an anthem from Richard Shephard (a former Gloucester chorboy); and most ambitiously, a large-scale Mass setting from Paul Patterson, *Missa Maris*.

Patterson explains: "I did have to tailor my writing very much to the amateur resources available, and I was careful to see that everything I wrote for the choir was practical to sing. I think they had enjoyed my *Voices of Sleep* at the Proms, but they were surprised when I showed them the score to see all the curious notation with boxes and wiggly lines and so on. This new Mass is in a rather different style - not tonal, though it does use a lot of tonal elements."

"I have worked with Tim Rose Price, who lives near Gloucester in Painswick, and he has selected texts from the Bible which use the image of water - I have woven these into the Mass setting rather as Britten juxtaposed the Wilfrid Owen poetry in the *War Requiem*, though of course it is totally different in

effect. So I have a stark and still description of the beginning of the world, the separation of the water from the earth, then God seeing the flaws in man and the violent episode of the flood. Towards the end Christ's words about making his apostles into fishers of men are used - and around all these the Latin texts of the Mass can be heard."

Was Patterson very conscious of the Three Choirs tradition when writing the piece? "Oh yes, and of the special acoustics of the cathedral where it will be sung. I did try to make the piece practical and traditional - but also adventurous. Like the festival. It's funny, because they are all steeped in Elgar and Finzi and Ivor Gurney there, but they will also take the trouble to rehearse something new, and audiences will come and hear it. There is a wonderful festival spirit, however old-fashioned some of it is, and hundreds of people will go there for the whole week and listen to absolutely everything and go to all the social events as well."

All this is a far cry from the tradition-bound "meetings" of the Three Choirs of the nineteenth century. Then, controversy raged as to whether oratorios ought to be allowed in the cathedrals, or whether only liturgical music should be heard. The festival depended on the financial support of the local landed gentry - they became "stewards" of the festival, a term which survives today, when stewards are holders of subscription tickets - and in 1875 the Earl of Dudley offered the huge sum of £10,000 if they would forbid the choirs to use the cathedral for their meeting.



Diana Oldridge, who started to sing in the choir during the mid-1920s, recalls: "They were rather taken for granted, and actually the performances were often very poor. I think it's much better today, when the classics are performed - much more rarely but are properly rehearsed."

In the inter-war years Elgar was particularly associated with the festival. "He knew exactly what he wanted in rehearsal, and we were all on our best behaviour for him - I remember lots of details about how he wanted the works done, and it's interesting how the conductors today change things like emphasis and tempo marks."

Criticism has often swirled around the festival for its unwillingness to change its well-established traditions - not least from this newspaper, which declared in a leading article in 1925 that the cathedral organist should not automatically conduct all the festival concerts, and should confine himself to *Ellijah* or *Messiah*. That tradition persists, though there are an increasing number of guest conductors for the orchestral concerts (which this year include Mahler's Tenth Symphony in the Deryck Cooke version under Simon Rattle, and Vaughan Williams's *Job* under Sir Charles Groves).

There was an even greater fuss in 1967, when William Mann wrote a fierce review which asked whether the Three Choirs Festival "needs to be replaced or retired for the musical health of the country?" Voices were raised at the festival committee to suggest that *The Times* should no longer receive the customary free press tickets, but the crisis blew over.

In fact the festival has mixed the new with the old in a remarkable way well suited to the inevitably country-based, middle-class nature of its audience. It has had its bad luck with new works: Gloucester's last choral commission, Malcolm Williamson's *Mass of Christ the King*, was not orchestrated in time and had to be performed incomplete. Perhaps some of the recently heard works will go the way of Clarke Whitfield's *The Resurrection* (1825), Crotch's *Palestine* (1827), Neukomm's *Mount Sinal* (1832) and Schneider's *The Deluge* (1833). But other works of the stature of Vaughan Williams's *Tallis Fantasia* and Herbert Howells's *Hymnus Paradisi* have survived.

Diana Oldridge remembers singing new works under their composers' direction as the most exciting feature of the festival between the wars. "They were all awfully nice and friendly and we got to know them well. Finzi came along as a young man; Bliss was one of the great ones and made a great impression on us."

During this period there was a strong continuity in the festival through Percy Hull, organist at Hereford from 1918, and Herbert Sumson at Gloucester from 1928. Sumson retired only in 1967 and still lives nearby. Younger conductors, such as David Willcocks at Worcester and Meredith Davies at Hereford, came after the war and stayed for briefer periods, but John Sanders, who succeeded Sumson at Gloucester, has remained there since 1968.

Alice Sumson, wife of Dr Sumson, recalls: "The music has always been the most

important thing, but this has also always been a religious and a friendly festival. I was very involved in the social events in the 1930s, and of course the festival was always supported by many prominent county people, so the social activities were very extensive. There is still a ladies' committee which works incredibly hard during the year, planning to help raise money and provide events during the festival. But it has all changed considerably now, because of the wider range of activities and the spread of business sponsorship."

Still, the festival seems to act as a social magnet around the cathedral towns, and the post-concert reception, formal garden parties and teas loom large in the calendar. The ladies' committee organizes auctions, draws, musical evenings and - sign of the times - a Sponsored Knit-In. A regular American visitor emphasized how central to the whole festival is its social side: it is the only festival, he says, where he can discuss musical points freely with total strangers, and meet the artists and conductors in the same informal spirit.

Whether the audience is there

for the parties or the premieres, for the friendship or the feast of music, the Three Choirs Festival has an extraordinary following. Already there are some 600-700 "stewards" subscribing this year, all of whom will come to eight or more events; and several concerts featuring the festival choirs are sold out to the cathedral's 2,500 capacity. Antiquated or not, the festival continues to fulfil a need, John Sanders: "I think audiences are more catholic in their tastes these days. They don't quite take everything I give them on trust - it's always more difficult to sell tickets for the new works - but there is a very open-minded support for all we do."

Diana Oldridge: "I think people are so much more sophisticated now. There's so much more music in schools that I think the standards are going up every year."

"It's all more commercial than it used to be, which is a pity, but I suppose that is a sign of the times. And there's more emphasis on the social side and not much on the benefit of the widows and orphans, which was why the meeting was first established. But the good thing

is that it is much more professional musically, and there is still a very happy spirit."

When I first visited the festival five years ago, I was surprised to find the traditional affirmations muted, and a mood of sober, almost dutiful adventure: there was no *Messiah*, or *Ellijah*, but instead the pagan splendours of Janacek and Walton, and a new metatext that set the disbelieving words of Matthew Arnold: "The sea of faith was once, too, at the full... but now I only hear its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar."

Perhaps the Three Choirs Festival is bound by tradition, but it is also acutely aware of the need for change. I could find no one who regretted the loss of those *Messiahs* and *Ellijahs*; everyone wants to explore the new, as long as it is not too unfamiliar. In its peculiar way, firmly based on amateur and religious roots, reluctantly anxious to keep up with the times but deeply attached to the past, the Three Choirs Festival represents the essence of British music-making that has characterized our music from Byrd, to Purcell, to Elgar himself. It will surely last another 256 years.

Highlights

Saturday, Aug 20: Gloucestershire Youth Orchestra/Mark Foster, Elis Pehkonen *Symphony* (first complete performance), St Catherine's Church, 8pm. Opening service, Cathedral, 2.30pm. RPO/Groves, Camilleri Organ Concerto (first performance), Vaughan Williams *Job*, Cathedral, 8pm.

Monday, Aug 22: Evensong by the Three Choirs, Cathedral, 5.30pm. Festival Chorus and RPO/Groves, Paul Patterson *Missa Maris* (first performance), Poulenc *Gloria*, Wagner *Siegfried Idyll*, Cathedral, 8pm.

Tuesday, Aug 23: Medici String Quartet (sold out), Prinknash Abbey, 11am. Recital by Three Choirs, Cathedral, 2.30pm. Box Trips, Elgar Sea Pictures, Vaughan Williams *Sea Symphony* (sold out), Cathedral, 8pm.

Wednesday, Aug 24: Landini Consort, Prinknash Abbey, 11am. City of London Sinfonia/Hickox *Each Programme* (New list), Tewkesbury Abbey, 8pm. Four last songs of Strauss, Brahms *Requiem* (sold out), Cathedral 8pm.

Thursday, Aug 25: Handel *The Occasional Oratorio*, soloists, Orchestra de Camera/Sanders, Cathedral, 2.30pm. City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra/Rattle; Britten *Sinfonia da Requiem*, Mahler *Symphony No 10*, Cathedral, 8pm.

Friday, Aug 26: The Saint Cecilia Singers/Millington, including Richard Shephard's "Let us now praise famous men", Cathedral 11am. John Shirley-Quirk and Martin Isopp (sold out) Painswick Parish Church, 2.30pm. Ferguson *Amore Languo*, Finzi *Clarinet Concerto*, Elgar *The Music Makers*, Cathedral, 8pm.

Saturday, Aug 27: Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra/Koopman; Bach, Farina and Telemann, Pitville Pump Room, Cheltenham, 8pm. *Orff Carmina Burana*, Verdi *Te Deum*, Concerto, 8pm. Fringe events include: Art exhibitions, youth choirs, "The Story of the Road", talks on Ivor Gurney and Elgar, jazz and dancing on the green.

Full details and tickets: Festival Ticket Office, College Green, Gloucester (Mon to Fri 10am-4pm), tel: 0542 503676.

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Flinty charms of feudal Sussex

This year, given the surfeit of Frenchmen in France, we took our summer break in England, in what Common Market people call "Le Sousex". An amiable week of going to the "beach", climbing historic towers, eating micro-waved lasagne verdi in pub gardens, walking the outer fringes of the Glynde Reach, cream teas, fish and chips (new potatoes still too soggy), Harvey's quenching biters, all interspersed with bouts of potty-training.

Our cottage was near Glynde-bourne in East Sussex. I'm not sure if occasional manifestations of local pride reflect genuine differences between the two wings of that county. Certainly, the East was for Parliament in the Civil War, while the West's feudal estates sided with Charles. And the East has the university, the pavilion at Brighton, Denis Hensley at Alfriston, Jim Callaghan at Uckfield, the Ashdown Forest and Beachy Head, the Newhaven ferry, and, minor matter, the spot where King Harold received one in the eye. The West has Bognor.

It was, even in Sussex, the most gasping August since Galileo invented the thermometer. I lay on a lawn riven with droughty crevasses, my feet in the paddling pool, reading C. L. R. James on why cricket is an art, while my ear heard England slump once again to the Third World New Zealanders. No London papers, no television, only a wireless for the weather report. Lazy days in the sun seem to last longer than

Denis Herbstein finds everything from Cinderella to colonels in a gasping August near Glyndebourne

The mine to five at the office. Bucolic murmurs intrude. She: "It's your turn to do the washing up." Me: "Your son was peed on, the mango-juice." He: "Moh, dew, moh, oggi, moh nana, moh, moh, moh." Or the friendly buzz of the wasp.

The walk to Tide Mills beach from the parking lot winds past handsome "fines" and pebble walls, modern manors to an age not all that long gone. The "beach" is a quarry of stones dumped at low water mark. But oil pollution from the Dieppe ferry, which comes and goes from next-door Newhaven, is hardly noticeable.

Glyndebourne has Cinderella this year and it was the first time I had seen the yarn done other than as a pantomime. Rossini has taken away the magic. A prosaic philosopher instead of a fairy god-mother, no cabbage-to-carriage wand-waving, no midnight race to the tape, and Prince Charming returns to match not a delicate Gucci but a boring bracelet. Nor were there cinders for Cinderella to sweep.

She busied herself at the electric fire and really the opera should have been called *Electric*.

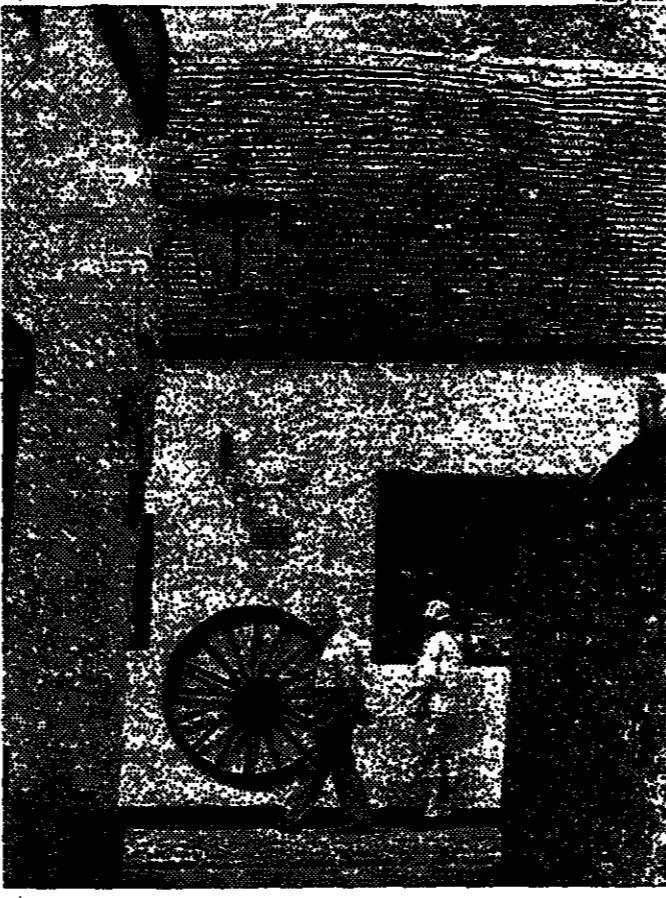
We picnicked on the lawn next to Unliver, where Syd the chauffeur had been roped in to serve the lobster and steak, having charmed the red in the mild evening air.

We did a spot of tourism, but were chased away from Alfriston, that picture postcard cliché on the Cuckmere, by coaches and Minolats. The flinty village of Glynde is just as attractive in its own way, and mercifully has no hotels.

But tucked away from the motorways are pockets of countryside, petit-point tapestries of England, green lanes and narrow roads bulging with hedgerows and hangily horse-people, cyclists, consulting maps, ramblers heading for the hills. A split-second sighting of a gawky lad, last man in for the W.G. Grassless XI, popping up a catch to the encircling hands of RAF Brighton XI on the pitch behind the Ram Inn at Frick.

And near our cottage, the despoiled trunk and fox, cycling you warily from the edge of a wood, brimstone butterflies feeding on willowherb, a flock of 30 Canada geese chattering overhead. Or rising at three in the morning, yet again, as the bullocks lurch down the lane (the county councillor farmer not being strong on fencing).

The hierarchy of Sussex village life was on show at the Chilmington garden fête. Major J.W. Deane triumphed in white



Quiet corners: Sampling the streets of Alfriston

potatoes, onion sets and pea pods, but couldn't stay the distance for the Perpetua Challenge Cup for most points in veg and flowers. Reired colonels in striped jackets, newly commuting salesmen, nicely toiletted spouses, their children queuing at the tombola where every ticket wins a

prize, tried hard to be digested. And the working people, the lads zooming about on Yamaha, has their grand-dads speeking Sussex and saying how high the corn was. We Londoners sat on a hayrick and thought perhaps it was a pity there were no "furriners" to see this left over of feudal England.

Latest cut-price offers in the air Full shopping basket for the jetsetters



United States
Intercontinental Navigation is offering some of the lowest charter fares to Los Angeles. Flights operate from Gatwick using British Airways and there are regular departures. Seats are available from mid-September onwards. The return fare is £350 falling to £330 in October. You must book at least 21 days ahead.

On its flights to Denver, Tampa and Miami, Arrow Air is offering stand-by fares which can be confirmed within eight days of travel. The price to all three destinations is £149 one-way.

US flight specialist Jetset is marketing return consolidation fares with British Caledonian to gateways in the "Sunbelt". These are cheaper than the APEX fares but you must still book 21 days ahead. There are regular departures from Gatwick. Sample high season prices are: Atlanta/St. Louis £370, Dallas £380, and Houston £390. From mid-September these fall to £310, £330 and £340 respectively.

Africa
London-based Bestways is selling group departure fares to a selection of African destinations at less than APEX prices. These special fares are available to individuals, they can be bought at any time and you must stay away anything from between 14 and 30 days. Prices vary depending on the airline and routing.

Typical return fares for travel in August are: Johannesburg £530 to £620; Durban £570; Harare £535; Lusaka £535 to £580; Dar-es-Salaam £420 to £445; Kilmarnock £430; Nairobi £325 to £450; Mombasa £430.

Latin America
Because far fewer people are travelling across the South Atlantic, the airlines are trying to encourage traffic by whatever means they can. The present consolidation fares valid for stays of between 10 and 35 days, already offer savings of over 60 per cent on normal rates.

Typical return fares quoted by London-based Steamond are: Rio de Janeiro £580, Sao Paulo £590, Santiago £743 and Buenos Aires £760. But I am told these are still not low enough to stimulate the market so expect prices to fall further still in the weeks ahead.

Caribbean
Pegasus Holidays is offering free holiday extensions on its Caribbean programme. The special offer applies to St. Lucia departures on August 22 and 29. One week's half board (£590 per person) at the Halycon Beach Club entitles you to a second week free - you pay just for the



food. Two week's half board (£744 per person) at the same hotel gives you a third week free, both accommodation and food. Taking a two-week self catering holiday at the La Toc Village gives you a third week free.

Hongkong
London/Hongkong fares sold by FETC are free of booking restrictions yet are still cheaper than the APEX fare. Flights are with Cathay Pacific from Gatwick on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. The one-way FETC price in August/September is £278, return is £556. By comparison the regular APEX fares are £295 and £590 respectively.

Swiss cities
Travel Swissair to Switzerland for less than the second class train fare. The Swiss flag carrier is one of the airlines featured by London-based City by City Tours in its Swiss city programme which offers scheduled flights at little more than charter prices. The other airlines featured are British Caledonian and Dan Air and typical return fares from Heathrow/Gatwick are: Zurich from £85, Geneva from £96, Basle from £97 and Bern from £101. You must stay away at least a Saturday

night and not more than 30 days. If you choose Swissair you can fly out to one airport and return from another, i.e. out to Zurich, return from Geneva. With Dan Air you can fly to return to Bern and return from Zurich, or vice versa.

Tel Aviv
Slade Travel is offering Super-fare scheduled flights to Tel Aviv. Valid for stays of between six and 30 days, the return fare is £340 until August 21 falling to £196 after that date.

Spain
Iberian Service is offering return scheduled fares with Iberia from Heathrow to Malaga for just £115 return. Flights depart every Sunday and you must stay away for one or two weeks. Other durations of stay cost extra. The August programme has been a virtual sell-out but seats are still available for September.

Alex McWhirter
Agents: Intercontinental Navigation 01-446 1660; Jetset 0342-27711 Bestways 01-930 3985 Steamond 01-730 8646 Pegasus 01-370 6144 FETC 01-734 8318 City by City Tours 01-379 7885 Slade 01-202 0111 Iberian Service 01-278 8094. Airlines: Arrow 0293-548181.

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EATING OUT

In search of the real dim sum

Chinese cuisine in Britain may bear little resemblance to the original article; this week, two London restaurants offering Cantonese dishes

Something odd is happening to Chinese restaurants in Britain. The relative predictability of the standard menu has been replaced by what threatens to become another cliché, that of the all-purpose, all-regions restaurant, able to turn its hand from Cantonese to Peking, Szechuan to Hunan, at the drop of a wok.

I am no purist in these matters: what really concerns me is the quality of the food. But it is no accident that authenticity and excellence tend to go hand in hand. Chinese cuisine involves more devotion than most. No one would expect a Western restaurant to master cuisine minceur, steak and kidney pudding and pasta simultaneously. Why demand it elsewhere, except as a sop to a jaded palate seeking sensation?

With these thoughts in mind, I determined to touch base with some of the original concepts of Chinese food. I would not presume so much as to claim that what follows constitutes the authentic article; life isn't that simple. Chinese food varies not only according to the region of its native country but the locale of its purveyors. New York differs from London, which differs from Hongkong, which differs from China itself.

What I have set my face against are the blatant liberties taken with the subject, the most outrageous being the bogus Peking Duck, flavour of the month with the new generation of Chinese restaurants. What one actually receives most of the time is aromatic crispy duck, a pleasant enough concoction more suited to conventional Western taste than the greasy, though infinitely more delicate, original.

King's Road and head for what, at 25 years, must be one of the oldest Chinese restaurants in London. I have concentrated on Cantonese food here for two reasons: it is the native region of virtually all chefs in Chinese restaurants in Britain, and leaving the question of fashion aside - yes, *Tarquin, Mongolian Hotpot may be more exotic, but it is actually more exotic?* - Cantonese offers far more in the way of originality, skilful preparation, and delicacy than its neighbours. It is, if you like, the cordon bleu school of China.

We began with Imperial hors d'oeuvres, roast pork, crispy roast duck, chicken and prawns, all cold and individually flavoured, on a bed of sesame.

Once again, we began with cold hors d'oeuvres, at £6 a third more expensive than the Man Fu Kung. The contrast with Cho's could hardly be more marked. *Man Fu Kung* claims to be the largest Chinese restaurant in Britain, and is chiefly patronized by large and noisy Chinese families. The lunchtime *dim sum* (steamed specialties served from bamboo baskets) is highly regarded in Soho and good value, if you can find a table. For dinner, reservations will be required after 10.30pm when a Cantonese pop singer takes to the stage. This was a sophistication which we chose to decline.

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splendid combination of the virtues of Cantonese cuisine with the skills of a fine Western restaurateur. In that sense, it is far from authentic.

MAN FU KUNG
29 Leicester Square, London (030 2359/330 4146)
Open daily 9.30am-2am
It was on the recommendation of acquaintances from the Chinese mainland that we headed for Leicester Square and the Man Fu Kung. The contrast with Cho's could hardly be more marked. *Man Fu Kung* claims to be the largest Chinese restaurant in Britain, and is chiefly patronized by large and noisy Chinese families. The lunchtime *dim sum* (steamed specialties served from bamboo baskets) is highly regarded in Soho and good value, if you can find a table. For dinner, reservations will be required after 10.30pm when a Cantonese pop singer takes to the stage. This was a sophistication which we chose to decline.

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covered vegetables. Cho's has a line to a first-class fishmonger, as the specialities of the day testified. Steamed scallops, at £1 each, served in the shell with ginger, garlic, spring onion and the lightest of soy sauces, could have graced the table of any well-conscious follower of M. Guetard.

The salmon, braised in a delicate black bean and ginger sauce, was generally proportioned and marvellously fresh. In contrast to the sea-saltness of the fish, Cantonese sizzling steak possessed a refreshing fruitiness. Chinese broccoli, nicely al dente and with minced fish cakes, was for once more than a make-weight.

Like much of Cho's menu, the vegetables vary with the season, and one may sometimes find the broccoli of the day has just come from the proprietor's garden. At around £24 for two (including a bottle of the refreshing house white Bordeaux by Sichel), Cho's is a

David Hewson

REVIEW Paperbacks of the month

Slim legacy of long battles with the here and now

On the cover sits a snag-toothed, myopic old man, balding, hunchbacked, and possessed of an inane grin. His ancient fountain pen is poised over a piece of paper. An open tin of sardines, a bowl of cornflakes and a bottle of Scotch face this dismal figure.

Collected Short Stories, by Kingsley Amis (Penguin, £1.95)

provide is an erratic marker of the equivocation of a writer bound, by his own interests, to the here and now.

one is always carried along by the pace of his writing. His Sherlock Holmes spoof, The Darkwater Hall Mystery, may lead nowhere, but it is a delight to be diverted by it for a few minutes.

In the introduction, Amis writes that the volume contains nearly all the short stories he has ever published, apart from The Sacred Rhino of Uganda, which entered the world when he was 10.

David Hewson

Years of blowing hot and cold

The Making of the Second Cold War, by Fred Halliday (Verso, £4.95)

The term "cold war" is too often an excuse for airing sloppy and subjective views on East-West relations. Fred Halliday's stimulating attempt to analyse the causes of US-Soviet conflict since 1945 skilfully avoids reducing complicated international problems to a crude allocation of blame in the manner of partisan apologists for the superpowers.

mistakes in US policy and the shortcomings of the capitalist system, but less conversant with the closed society of the USSR. The reader is told about the "repression in both camps"; yet McCarthyism is surely on a different scale from the persecution of Titoists in eastern Europe.

respond because it is surrounded by hostile countries. Neighbouring countries do not agree that the Soviet military build-up is purely defensive. And despite the "right-wing offensive in the USA" - and Britain in the Falklands war showing itself as vicious an imperialist power as any other - the one-way flow of emigration from East to West suggests that people would rather live under the evils of capitalism than wait for the radiant future promised.

Iain Elliot



Shaming the wild frontier

Harry Paget Flashman VC, born 1822, educated Rugby School, officer in the Cherry-pickers, hero of every warzone and warehouse in the nineteenth century, "special subject" of this year's BBC Mastermind on his way to the glittering prize.

Flashman and the Redskins by George MacDonald Fraser (Pan £1.95) Vintage Stuff by Tom Sharpe (Pan £1.75)

swept aside his creator and taken over his own destiny. That one so shamelessly flawed, so brainless and so venal can retain such charm even when boozing "right as tadpoles" with a smelly Apache chief, says much for the professional skill which lies behind him.

Turning in his grave: Thomas Hughes

this, like its predecessors, such entertaining bedtime stuff. Mr G. MacD. F. tells a rattlin' good yarn as Flashie might have put it, and long may he continue.

Henry Stanhope

New 'realism' bites the dust

Granta Dirty Realism: New writing from America edited by Bill Buford (Penguin, £3.50)

Granta's phoenix act continues. This is Bill Buford's eighth issue of the resurrected Cambridge magazine and the second to be produced in conjunction with Penguin.

comment. The language is thin, generally unassociative and clearly intended to be returned to its denotive functions, stripped of its more usually twentieth-century accretions.

unacknowledged subjectivity and the realism crumbles, before its always victorious enemy - selectivity.

Bryan Appleyard

PREVIEW Theatre

Naked tragedy and dark deeds by an unknown hand

Ardan of Faversham, which opens on Monday at The Pit, the Royal Shakespeare Company's second theatre at the Barbican, has a strong claim to be known as the greatest play by that enigmatic author Anon.

directed by Terry Hands. On the question of authorship, Hands regards Ardan of Faversham as a typical example of Elizabethan cooperative writing, with the hand of one man dominant. He is certain that hand was not Shakespeare's, although he admits that there are a couple of phrases reminiscent of Henry VI, which was written at about the same time.

"It is a mermaid play, but it is also a funny black comedy, with marvellous writing. And it is a splendid vehicle for the actors", he says. It is a blood-curdling play, too, in which no fewer than seven persons have motives for disposing of the landowner Ardan (not so much a who dunnit as who'll do it?).

Christopher Warman



Wildcat wife: Jenny Agutter (right) and Christopher Benjamin in Ardan of Faversham

PREVIEW Galleries

Launched in the tradition of Gainsborough

While the London auction houses sleep through the summer, Christie's are filling their King Street rooms with an exhibition of works by degree students from the seven London state colleges of art. Almost 300 paintings, prints and sculptures come from Camberwell, Central, Chelsea, St Martins and the Slade colleges, the Royal College of Art and the Royal Academy Schools. All are for sale, the prices ranging from £30 to £3,500.

he goes to Central to begin work on a post-graduate diploma in printing. His career so far is a remarkable story of determination. As a deaf West Indian orphan born in Brixton, he was sent to Margate School for the Deaf, where he was very unhappy. Things began to look up when, at the age of 15, he began to draw. His social worker in Brixton, also a local painter and teacher, Carol Wyatt, found a room for him in a hostel in Kennington. Here, he would be up at dawn, sketching four old men who shared his room.

Louise Nicholson

Critics' choice

AS YOU LIKE IT Regent's Park (043 8451) Aug 17 at 2.30pm and 7.45pm in repertory

wrestler and David Williams is a superbly distinguished Jacques. DAISY PULLS IT OFF Globe (437 1522) Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinee Wed at 5pm, Sat at 5pm

Joint Stock's beautifully disciplined production of Caryl Churchill's incisive, moving, sometimes very funny play about four generations of Fenland women returns after its New York success to provide London with rich, truthful acting and an exceptionally satisfying dramatic experience.

as a duke observing in disguise (shades of Measure for Measure) holds it all together. A MAP OF THE WORLD Lyttelton (828 2252) Today at 3pm and 7.45pm in repertory

Revival of Peter Gill's evocation of childhood in working-class Cardiff, assembled from countless remembered details. THE REAL THING Strand (836 2650) Mon-Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 5pm and 8.30pm; matinee Wed at 2.30pm

THE RIVALS Olivier (928 2252) Today and Aug 18 at 2pm and 7.15pm, Aug 15 at 7.15pm. In repertory

MANET AT WORK National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (839 3921). Until Oct 9, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm

force, but the show has its deficiencies as well, such as a female minimalist, Levina Tearing, who would seem to have taught Hilliard. Also at the V & A until Oct 30, the exhibition of Oliver Messiaen's interior and fabric designs drawn from materials loaned by his nephew Lord Snowden.

THE HOLY BLOOD AND THE HOLY GRAIL THE SINGLE MOST SHATTERING SECRET OF THE LAST TWO THOUSAND YEARS OUT NOW IN CORGI PAPERBACK

Out of Town

EXETER Northcott (0382 54853). Purchase to Dress by Ivor Novello. Until Sept 10, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinee Aug 20, 24, 31, Sept 3, 7, and 10 at 5pm

SCARBOROUGH: Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round (0723 70541). Before Your Very Eyes by Michael Coshman. Today, Mon-Wed at 7.30pm. In repertory

Wanmaker, Richard O'Callaghan; directed by John Caird. The Comedy of Errors. Mon at 7.30pm

A New Way to Pay Old Debts by Philip Messenger. Wed and Fri at 7.30pm. 1600s comedy, directed by Adrian Noble, with Miles Anderson, Emrys James.

ARTISTS OF THE TUDOR COURT Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (589 8371). Until Nov 6, Mon-Thurs and Sat 10am-5.15pm, Sun 2.30-5.15pm

ROYAL ACADEMY SUMMER EXHIBITION Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1 (734 3471). Until Aug 28, daily 10am-6pm. Admission £2, £1. Mon: 50p

ENTERTAINMENTS

What's new on the GLC South Bank?

CREDIT CARDS Diners Club and American Express

The GLC's South Bank Summer Music AUGUST 14-28

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Thursday 18 August 8.00 pm

Friday 19 August 7.30 pm

Saturday 20 August 7.30 pm

Sunday 21 August 5.30 pm

Monday 22 August 8.00 pm

Tuesday 23 August 8.00 pm

Wednesday 24 August 8.00 pm

Thursday 25 August 8.00 pm

Friday 26 August 8.00 pm

Saturday 27 August 8.00 pm

Sunday 28 August 8.00 pm

Monday 29 August 8.00 pm

Tuesday 30 August 8.00 pm

Wednesday 31 August 8.00 pm

Thursday 1 September 8.00 pm

Friday 2 September 8.00 pm

Saturday 3 September 8.00 pm

Sunday 4 September 8.00 pm

Monday 5 September 8.00 pm

Tuesday 6 September 8.00 pm

Wednesday 7 September 8.00 pm

Thursday 8 September 8.00 pm

Friday 9 September 8.00 pm

Saturday 10 September 8.00 pm

Sunday 11 September 8.00 pm

Monday 12 September 8.00 pm

Tuesday 13 September 8.00 pm

Wednesday 14 September 8.00 pm

Thursday 15 September 8.00 pm

Friday 16 September 8.00 pm

Saturday 17 September 8.00 pm

Sunday 18 September 8.00 pm

Monday 19 September 8.00 pm

Tuesday 20 September 8.00 pm

Wednesday 21 September 8.00 pm

Thursday 22 September 8.00 pm

Friday 23 September 8.00 pm

Saturday 24 September 8.00 pm

The Greater London Council presents THE GREATER LONDON COUNCIL THEATRE

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER at 8.00 pm

Suzanna...OV. THE BARRIED BRIDE

Yehudi Menuhin...PIANO CONCERTO No. 2

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Conductor YURI TEMERLANDY

CRISTINA ORTIZ plays BARRY GRITTY'S Violin

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL, LONDON SE1 8XX

Tel 01-928 3191, Info 01-928 3002

Credit Cards 01-928 5534

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RAYMOND GUBBAY PRESENTS at the BARBICAN

TONIGHT at 8 pm. ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

TOMORROW at 7.30 pm. TCHAIKOVSKY

MARCHE SLAVE SWAN LAKE SUITE

PIANO CONCERTO No. 1. NUTCRACKER SUITE

OVERTURE '1812' with Cannon & Mortar Effects

LONDON CONCERT SOCIETY

Conductor MARCUS DOBS. FRANK WUBAU plays

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Conductor RICHARD HICKOX

SIMON STANDAEGE. MALCOLM COLFIELD violins

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Conductor RICHARD HICKOX

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ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

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Victor Hochhauser presents

Anglo Korean Centenary Celebration

AUG 29 to SEPT 3

Korean National Dance Company

Dazzling Spectacle

Brilliant Costumes

Exotic Dancing

Nightly at 7.45. Tickets: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50

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PROMS 83

BBC presents the 89th Season of Henry Wood Promenade Concerts

TONIGHT 7.30

SIR JOHN PITCHFORD

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

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PREVIEW Films



Teenage trauma: Ralph Macchio (left) and C. Thomas Howell in Francis Coppola's The Outsiders

Oklahoma socs and greasers

Francis Coppola's latest film, The Outsiders, begins its British life with one major disadvantage...

male leadership of The Outsiders, written when she was seventeen and still at high school.

luxuriate in high budgets and elaborate facilities. Hinton agreed to the adaptation of The Outsiders after seeing Coppola's Zoetrope film...

Geoff Brown

The Outsiders opens in London on Aug 18 at the Warner West End, Classic Haymarket, Classic Oxford Street and various local cinemas.



Innocence: Fernando Rey's assault on Viridiana (Silvia Pinal)...

Films on TV/Buñuel season

Luis Buñuel (right) was one of the cinema's true originals, a born iconoclast and a naturally anarchic spirit capable of the most delicious flights of absurdity...

weight to the period of his splendid maturity which started with Viridiana in 1961 and lasted to his final film, That Obscure Object of Desire, which appeared in Buñuel's seventy-seventh year.



sequence, there are few of the surreal touches that set the style for so much of Buñuel's work. The treatment is direct, unadorned and harsh.

The Buñuel season continues on BBC2, on Friday evenings, and the other films (in provisional running order) are: Republic of Sin, Viridiana, Diary of a Chambermaid, Belle de Jour, Tristana, The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie, The Milky Way, The Phantom of Liberty and That Obscure Object of Desire.

Peter Waymark

BUSTER KEATON SEASON Barbican Cinema One (028 8795) until Aug 31

DIAL M FOR MURDER (PG) ICA Cinema, The Mall (030 3847) until Sept 7 (closed Mon)

FANNY AND ALEXANDER (15) Camden Plaza (485 2443) until Aug 24

HEAVEN'S GATE (NO CERT) National Film Theatre (928 3232) Today-Tues at 2pm and 6.30pm

LE JOUR SE LEVE (15) Academy 3, Oxford Street (437 8819)

THE KING OF COMEDY (PG) Cinecine, Penton Street (930 0631)

GATA, MAYFAIR (483 0891) Screen on the Hill (435 3366) until Aug 17

OCTOPUSSY (15) Classic Chelsea (352 5096) Odeon Kensington (930 6644)

ONE FROM THE HEART (15) Lumiere, St Martin's Lane (836 0681) until Aug 31

PAULINE AT THE BEACH (15) Academy 2, Oxford Street (437 5128)

THE PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH (15) Classic Chelsea (352 5096) Gate Bloomsbury (637 1177/8402)

RETURN OF THE JEDI (U) Classic Chelsea (352 5096) Classic Tottenham Court Road (636 6148)

THE RISE TO POWER OF LOUIS XIV (U) Classic Chelsea (352 5096) Amofilm, Bristol (0272 299191)

SUPERMAN III (PG) ABC Bayswater (228 4149) ABC Edgware Road (723 5901)

TOOTSIE (PG) Classic Chelsea (352 5096) Studio, Oxford Circus (437 3300)

WARRIOR (PG) ABC Bayswater (228 4149) ABC Edgware Road (723 5901)

Critics' choice

products of strip-cartoon magic. In the latest episode the essence remains the same, as does the casting of Bond (a now more cautiously dashing Roger Moore), Miss Moneybags (Lois Maxwell) and old Q (Desmond Llewellyn).

THE BOND FILMS have proved their point by selling a billion tickets. Though it is hard nowadays to stay ahead of real-life technology, Bond's flying jeeps, fountain-pen leasers and other toys are still the

love, peopled with annoying characters (Amanda Langlet's Pauline is the chief exception). The scenery, though, suits the season perfectly: when the waves and sea breeze start rolling in, you feel like diving into the screen.

THE BOND FILMS have proved their point by selling a billion tickets. Though it is hard nowadays to stay ahead of real-life technology, Bond's flying jeeps, fountain-pen leasers and other toys are still the

PREVIEW Music & Dance

Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London SW1 (030 3647) This programme in the Musica series features works by young British composers...

APOLLO'S BANQUET Tomorrow, 8pm, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford

CONTRASTS, CHANSONS Tue, 7.45pm, Queen Elizabeth Hall

DEATH, TRANSFIGURATION Mon, 7.30pm, Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (059 8212)

WHERE, INDEED? Tue, 7.30pm, Albert Hall

TRIPLE TRIO Wed, 7.30pm, Sutton Place, near Guildford, Surrey (0453 604455)

SCYMANOWSKI RARITY Fri, 7.30pm, Albert Hall

DAVID HOCKNEY'S PHOTOGRAPHS Knocker Kasmin, 22 Cork Street, London W1 (439 1096)

The Outsiders movie advertisement featuring Francis Ford Coppola, Ralph Macchio, and C. Thomas Howell. Includes showtimes and venue information.

First fringe benefits over border advertisement for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Details the festival dates, venues, and ticket information.

Rock & Jazz advertisement for the Fairport Convention. Includes showtimes, venue, and contact information.

Photography advertisement for Barbara Baran and Elizabeth Zeschin. Details the exhibition of their work and ticket information.

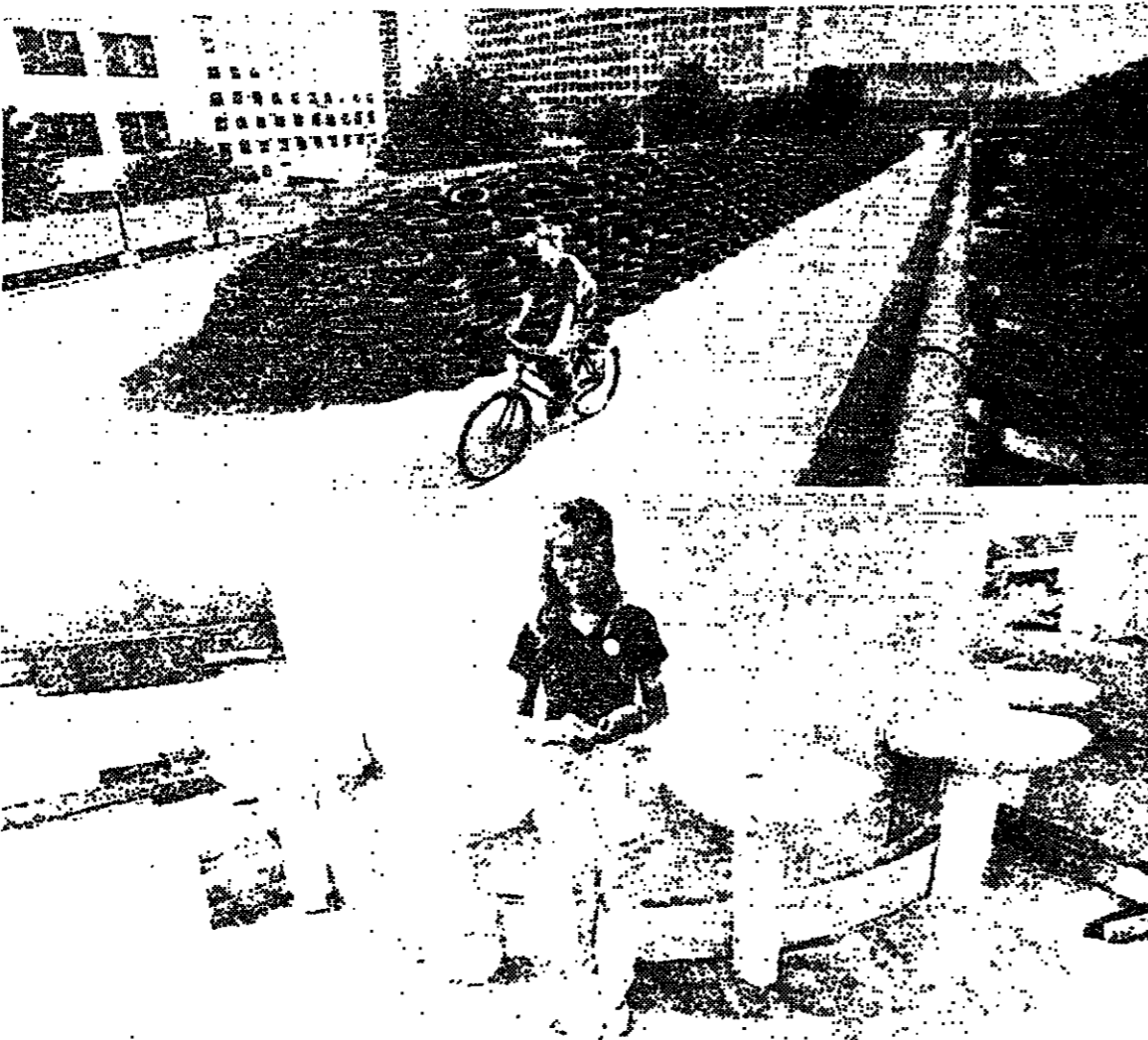
THE WEEK AHEAD

Today

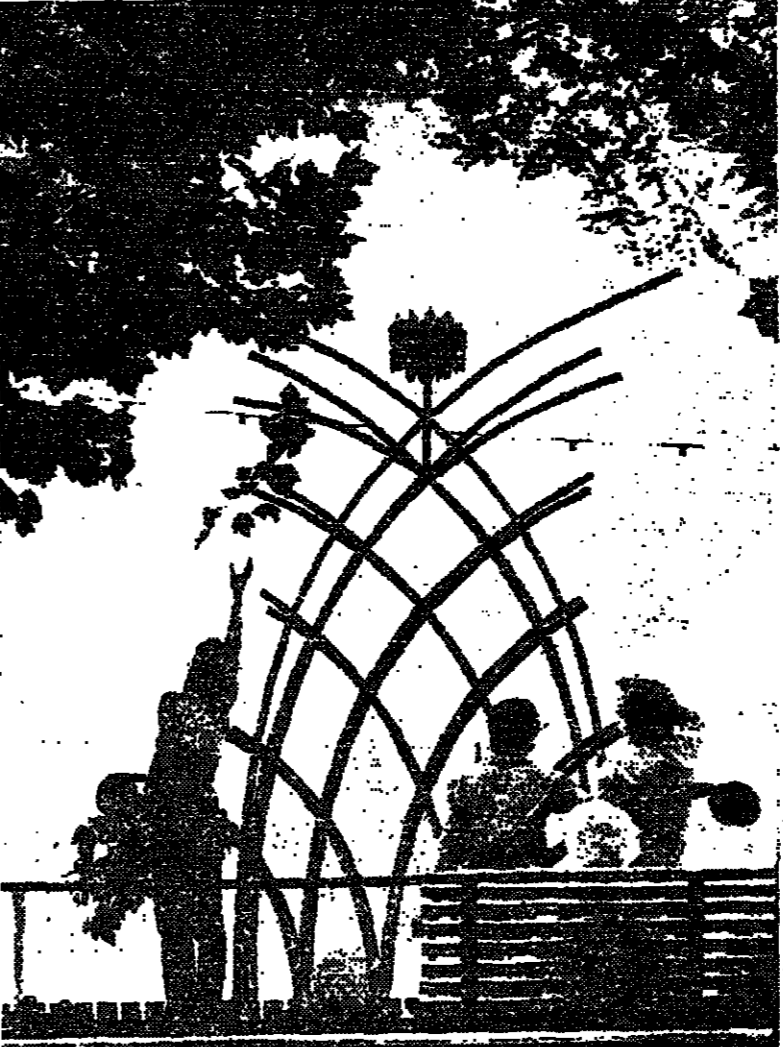
A TIMELESS JOURNEY. PAINTINGS BY TRISTRAM HILLIER RA: Whether you regard Tristram Hillier, who died earlier this year, as a surrealist before his time or a surrealist in spite of himself, he was a curiously isolated figure in British art.

THE SCULPTURE SHOW: It may not be the best, but it is certainly the largest: more works by more living sculptors (50 in all) than have ever been assembled in one show before in Britain.

BRITISH AND COMMONWEALTH STAGE DESIGN: Exhibition, in two parts, in the Lyttelton circle foyer of the National Theatre. The first part (until Sept 8) concentrates on contemporary British design.



Tyring journey: A cyclist passing Polaris (top left) at the Sculpture Show on South Bank; Sarah Bradpiece with Wash Station (bottom left); and a complement to the trees (right) (see Today)



his partner, Noble Sissle; they include "Shuffle Along", "Low Down Blues", "In Honesyuckle Time" and "I'm Just Wild About Harry", Channel 4, 9-10.35pm.

WAR GAMES: America's surprise summer hit arrives in Britain: the artful story of a boy computer wizard who makes contact with a secret computer programmed to play games ranging from chess to global thermonuclear war.

CONTEMPORARY BRITISH GLASS: Exhibition of more than 50 pieces of glasswork reflecting the advent of the day-tank furnace which has enabled artists to take free-hand glass blowing out of the factory and into the studio.

CAMERAS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT: A highlight of today's sale is a Sutton panoramic camera made in the early 1880s and significant for its spherical lens filled with water which enabled pictures to be taken with a span of 120 degrees.

DIRT DIGGERS CHAMPIONSHIP: American-style off-road racing comes to Britain for the first time. The vehicles are two, three and four wheelers, powered by Yamaha motorcycle engines from 125cc to 1,000cc turbo, and the track is a high-speed banked circuit with leaps and bumps.

A SOUND OF GOONS: A history of The Goon Show, presented by Frank Muir (Radio 4, 10.15-11.00am) is an appetite whetter for a series of 10 repeats of vintage shows, with the incomparable team of Spike Milligan, Sir Harry Secombe and the late Peter Sellers.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING: The big-punching Colin Jones of Wales, makes another attempt to take the WBC World Welterweight Championship from Milton McCrory of Detroit in a 12-round contest in Las Vegas.

BIKES BONANZA: Three hundred ancient and historic motor cycles, sidecars and three-wheeled cycle cars parade through central London today (starting at County Hall, South Bank, SE1 at 10am).

AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX: Elio de Angelis won for Lotus on the Osterreichring last year, but apart from Nigel Mansell's fourth place at Silverstone, the Lotus team has made little impact this season.

FRENCH WITHOUT TEARS: Terence Rattigan's comedy revived with Christopher Blake, Joanna Hole, Deborah Watling and Jeremy Sinden, directed by Eleanor

THE ZIMBABWE TAPES: A drama-documentary by David Caine set in the years of the 1976-80 war in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe. Richard Clark (played by Peter Jeffrey) is a white settler and farmer captured by guerrilla supporters of Robert Mugabe and forced to document the struggles of the guerrillas on tape to counteract the propaganda of his previous broadcasts.

THE KILLING OF MR TOAD: Play with music about Kenneth Grahame's author of The Wind in the Willows and his unhappy life. By David Gooderson, directed by Peter Watson, with Deborah Norton, Rupert Graves, Hugh Sullivan, John Warner.

GEMS OF THE PAST: Fashionable Georgian, Victorian and Edwardian pieces sparkle in a sale of antique and modern jewellery, including an 18th-century gold and agate ring modelled with heads of age and youth (estimate £150), a Victorian gold

THE MOON IN THE YELLOW RIVER: New production of Denis Johnston's 1951 play, sometimes called an Irish Cherry Orchard, and compared with Heartbreak House. Cast includes Ray McAnally, Godfrey Quigley, Desmond

FOR THOSE IN PERIL: The National Youth Theatre opens its twenty-seventh season with a prize-winning play by Christopher Short about the naval mutiny at Invergordon in 1931. Michael Croft directs. Shaw Theatre, Euston Road, London NW1 (388 1394). Previews today, Thurs, Fri and Sat at 7.30pm. Opens Aug 22 at 7pm. Utl Aug 27.

GREAT AND SMALL: Glenda Jackson leads in a play by German author Botho Strauss, about a woman's search for

NATWEST BANK TROPHY: Middlesex, who have been leading the County Championship and won the Benson and Hedges Cup last month, continue their pursuit of cricket's first "treble" when they take on Somerset in the 60-over semi-final at Lord's.

TOO MUCH, TOO YOUNG?: An investigation by Anne Nightingale into girls under 16 who get pregnant and choose to keep their babies. The programme looks at how they cope as mothers, how much they rely on their families and the extent to which fathers face up to their responsibilities.

EUBIE: Musical tributes, from Broadway by way of American television, to Eubie Blake, the black American pianist and composer who died in February a few days after his 100th birthday.

THE HEART OF THE NATION: A son et lumiere production tracing the role of Whitehall in British history from Henry VIII to Winston Churchill. Written by Rosemary Anne Sisson, it features the voices of (among many others) Peter Barkworth, Sir John Gielgud, Robert Hardy, Penelope Keith, Francesca Scaglia and Paul Scofield. Horse Guards Parade, London SW1. Nightly at 9pm to Sept 8, including Sundays and Bank Holiday Monday. Tickets £4.50 and £5.50. Information on 222 9228.

EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO: The annual display of colour and pageantry by the Scottish military massed pipe bands, augmented by two visitors from overseas: the Lochiel marching team from New Zealand and the pipes and drums of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa. The finale is Lock Rannoch, played by a lone piper on the castle wall.

KRAKATO: THE DAY THAT SHOOK THE WORLD: A programme to mark the centenary of the volcanic explosion which destroyed an island between Java and Sumatra and set up a giant tidal wave that killed an estimated 36,000 people.

Tomorrow

THE ZIMBABWE TAPES: A drama-documentary by David Caine set in the years of the 1976-80 war in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe. Richard Clark (played by Peter Jeffrey) is a white settler and farmer captured by guerrilla supporters of Robert Mugabe and forced to document the struggles of the guerrillas on tape to counteract the propaganda of his previous broadcasts.

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THE KILLING OF MR TOAD: Play with music about Kenneth Grahame's author of The Wind in the Willows and his unhappy life. By David Gooderson, directed by Peter Watson, with Deborah Norton, Rupert Graves, Hugh Sullivan, John Warner.

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NATWEST BANK TROPHY: Middlesex, who have been leading the County Championship and won the Benson and Hedges Cup last month, continue their pursuit of cricket's first "treble" when they take on Somerset in the 60-over semi-final at Lord's.

TOO MUCH, TOO YOUNG?: An investigation by Anne Nightingale into girls under 16 who get pregnant and choose to keep their babies.

EUBIE: Musical tributes, from Broadway by way of American television, to Eubie Blake, the black American pianist and composer who died in February a few days after his 100th birthday.

THE HEART OF THE NATION: A son et lumiere production tracing the role of Whitehall in British history from Henry VIII to Winston Churchill. Written by Rosemary Anne Sisson, it features the voices of (among many others) Peter Barkworth, Sir John Gielgud, Robert Hardy, Penelope Keith, Francesca Scaglia and Paul Scofield.

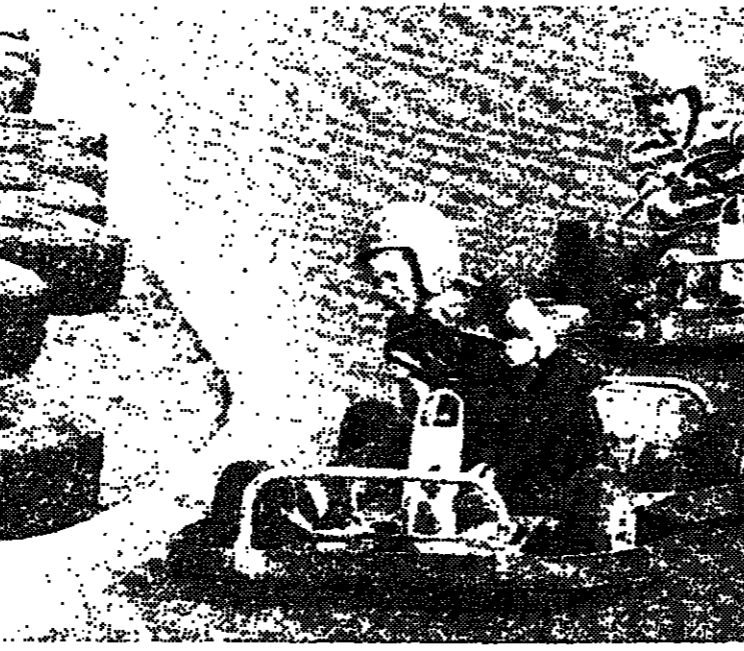
EDINBURGH MILITARY TATTOO: The annual display of colour and pageantry by the Scottish military massed pipe bands, augmented by two visitors from overseas: the Lochiel marching team from New Zealand and the pipes and drums of the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa.

KRAKATO: THE DAY THAT SHOOK THE WORLD: A programme to mark the centenary of the volcanic explosion which destroyed an island between Java and Sumatra and set up a giant tidal wave that killed an estimated 36,000 people.

Too many in pursuit of too little

One of the problems of visiting a place as a member of the press is that you are never quite sure to what extent you would enjoy yourself if everyone were not being so nice to you - rather like being a food inspector at a restaurant when the cook knows you're coming. I had no such troubles at Thorpe Park amusement park in Surrey. Having missed a recent press trip, I made my way incognito round as much of the place as I could manage in an afternoon.

and you are prepared for a lot of walking and waiting, you can have fun. And indeed that was the view of the children I took. They did, however, wonder why there could not be more rides, more boats: one even suggested a ticket system whereby you could obtain a place in a queue without having to hang around for a turn, much as is done in some large department stores or at the Passport Office.



Tiring treat: Thorpe Park is fun if you don't mind the waiting game

London Zoo, and I did not feel there were sufficient intrinsically interesting areas to explore. And yet the boating lakes looked tranquil, the roller-skating rink full of happy feet and some of the exhibitions clearly of interest to other families. Also the new trip round a kind of Tussaud's haunted house - the Phantom Fantasia - was,

apart from the boring maze through which one got to it, excellent, and I observed many children and adults making the trip many times over. In fact a lot of children - once they had achieved the goal, whether it was a ride on a go-kart or bumper boat - appeared to be enjoying themselves. There were also facilities (at additional cost) for boardsail-

Family Life

OUTINGS

COUNTRY SPORTS AND CRAFTS FAIR: Grounds of Beauieu Manor, Beauieu, Hampshire, Aug 14, 10am-6pm, Adults £2.20, Children £1.60, free parking. Country sports include clay pigeon shooting, fishing, falconry demonstrations, riding, and gun dog working tests and tarrier show (starting at 2pm). Also over 100 stalls selling and demonstrating different country crafts from fly dressing and thatching to barrel and cask making and saddlery.

PEEBLES AGRICULTURAL SHOW: Hay Lodge Park, Peebles, Aug 13, 8am-5pm, Adults £1, Children 20p, Parking £1. Annual show with horses, ponies, donkeys, sheep, goats and a dog show. Also Highland dancing, mounted sports, fancy dress competitions, gun dog demonstrations and piped bands.

STEAM OPEN DAYS CENTENARY WEEKEND: Rutland Railway Museum, Cottingham, Oakham, Leicestershire, Aug 13, 14, 11am-6pm. Steam enthusiasts are in for a bonanza display of engines in celebration this week end when the museum celebrates 100 years of the Cottingham Mineral Branch Railway.

Shows

THE ICE HOUSE: Holland Park, London W8, today until Aug 25, 11 am-7 pm daily free. A look back at the career of the vain and lazy pirate captain of the Black Pig, his timorous crew and his awful rival Cut Throat Jake. John Flynn has assembled 33 years of the pirate's press cuttings and television appearances and gathered in his other creations: Sir Francis Drake, Harris Tweed, the bungling detective from the old Eagle comic, and many more.

UNDER THE HILLS AND FAR AWAY: Feltham Green, Hounslow, Aug 18, 19, 2pm, tickets 50p (890 3506). The GLC assisted Bubble Theatre Company's musical adventure for 4-7 year olds.

HIGHGATE CEMETERY (WESTERN SECTION) OPEN DAY: Swains Lane, NE, Aug 14, 1pm-5pm, free.

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Bridge

Dignity of an honourable discard

The discard of an honourable discards the dignity of a traditional ceremony where the elegance demands its own particular protocol. An everyday example shows the value of this discipline. Pairs. Game all. Dealer South.

points immediately enabled West to assess his chances of beating the contract as minimal. Declarer won the trick in hand and cashed four rounds of diamonds. West discarding two spades and East the Queen of hearts. Declarer finessed the ♠Q on which West contributed a wild ♠8. Noting the ♠8 with a heady eye, declarer tried the effect of the ♠J. West took the ♠K and returned a club.

Teams. North South game. Dealer East.

Teachers, doctors, clergymen and lawyers are very prominent in chess, both as players and as organizers. Teaching seems particularly notable for great players. Adolf Anderssen, who won the first real international tournament (in London in 1851), was a mathematics teacher, as was the late world champion, Max Euwe. A possible explanation is that teachers can devote their long holidays to playing great chess.

Chess

Legal aid advances the British game

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us and British chess can become a patron or a Friend of Chess with a minimum subscription for the first of £30 a year and for the second £12 a year, which should be sent to the Treasurer, Friends of Chess, 19 The Ridings, Frimley, Camberley, Surrey.

It might perhaps be asked: What part have the Friends played in this renaissance of British chess? and in answer, let me point to the fourth place attained by our team at the recent European Team Championship finals at Plovdiv in Bulgaria. This was in competition with nearly all the leading chess nations in the world. We beat Yugoslavia in the last round by 4½-3½, and Jonathan Mestel obtained the best score in the whole competition with six points out of the seven. Everybody in the team had, at some time, assistance from the Friends enabling them to compete in events abroad.

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1R 4JH Telephone 01-497 1284

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 722.1 down 3.8 FT 100 Index 79.10 up 0.20 FT All Share 456.53 unch. Bargains: 20,026. Datascan USM Leaders Index 100.82 up 0.55 New York Dow Jones Average 1183.13 up 8.74 Tokyo Stock Exchange Index 8,920.72 up 12.21 Hongkong Hang Seng Index 1,037.48 down 3.12 Amsterdam 150.1 down 0.6 Sydney AO Index 661.7 down 1.5 Frankfurt Commerzbank Index 944.40 up 9.80 Brussels General Index 130.01 up 2.49 Paris CAC Index 131.2 unch Zurich SKA General 294.0 up 0.1

CURRENCIES LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.4835 up 36pts Index 85.41 up 0.2 DM 4.0375 down 0.0075 FRF 12.1400 down 0.0225 Yen 366.25 up 1.75 Dollar Index 130.4 down 0.1 DM 2.7220 NEW YORK CLOSE Sterling \$1.4825 INTERNATIONAL ECUE0.565347 SDRE0.703928

INTEREST RATES Domestic rates: Bank base rates 9 1/2 Finance houses base rate 10 Discount market loans week fixed 8 3/4 3 month interbank 9 1/8 - 9 1/2 Euro-currency rates: 3 month dollar 10 1/8 - 10 1/2 3 month DM 5 1/2 - 5 3/4 3 month FR 15 1/2 - 15 3/4 US rates: Bank prime rate 11 Fed funds 9 1/2 Treasury long bond 100 1/2 - 100 1/4 ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period July 6 to August 2, 1983 inclusive: 9.989 per cent.

GOLD London fixed (per ounce) am \$411.60 pm \$412.45 close \$414.25-\$415 (\$279.25-279.75) New York close: \$412.45 Krugerrand (per coin): \$279.25-\$279.75 (\$288-289) Sovereigns (new): \$87.50-\$88.50 (\$65.75-66.50) *Excludes VAT

NOTEBOOK Bowler has been the object of latter speculation for years. Rumours about the papermaker have enjoyed a new lease of life recently. Despite its high asset value and profit prospects, however, Bowler seems too big and too expensive easily to digest. The oil pollution disaster threatening the South African coast could be a disaster for fringe re-insurers as well. At least \$20m will have to be paid on the tanker Castillo de Bellver and that could be more than these companies can afford. Higher rates could result. Prestige household gadget makers, has increased interim pretax profits from £2.35m to £3.18m. Apart from a 12 per cent dividend (3p net), it is also paying an extraordinary dividend of 27.5p net. Page 14

International Signal & Control Group's offer for sale of 34.6 million new shares by tender at a minimum 125p a share has been oversubscribed. Details of what applicants get and the price they will be charged are expected to be known on Monday. At the minimum price the American electronic warfare company would raise £43.5m, more than it raised when it first came to the British market about a year ago.

Japan has asked the United States federal government to stop states from using the controversial unitary taxation of companies. The Japanese embassy in Washington has written to government departments and to the office of the Special Trade Representative. Britain has already lodged a similar protest against the unitary method which, it says, results in companies being taxed twice.

Ford car prices are going up by an average of 4.9 per cent from Monday. New prices, including car tax and VAT, range from £4,567.72 for the Escort 1.3 three-door (old price £4,381.83) to £10,919.12 for the Granada 2.3 Ghia Automatic (old price £10,399.16). Ford last raised its prices by 4 per cent last January.

Princes of Wales Hotels has agreed to buy the Golf Hotel, Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire, from a subsidiary of Epicure Holdings.

Dollar falls against sterling and Deutschmark Bank launches £800m tap as hopes grow for US-induced gilts rally

The Bank of England yesterday announced an £800m tap stock on the back of a firmer tone in the gilt-edged market and on optimism that the latest US money supply figures would be more encouraging than the markets had been expecting earlier this week. The new tap, 10 per cent Treasury convertible 1986, is over-payable on tender at a minimum tender price of 59 1/2%. Dealers said that the stock was slightly expensive as a short-dated stock and also out of line with the long end of the market on the basis of the conversion terms. However, there was speculation in the market that the Bank was looking for a rally in the market next week, helped by the more encouraging news expected from the US. The new tap - with a further £200m reserved for the National Debt Commissioners - has a first conversion date in April 1984 into 10 per cent 2002 stock; on the first conversion date the gross redemption yield is 10.62 per cent. The gilts market moved ahead yesterday, encouraged by the strength of US bonds; short gilts ended the day with gains of 1/2p and there were rises of 1/2p at the long end of the market. Ahead of last night's US money supply figures, the markets scaled down earlier estimates for the expected rise in M1 and were also expecting reasonably good M2 and M3 figures.

Dealers suggested that could delay further rises in US interest rates and the dollar had a quieter day after its sharp gains of recent weeks. Against the Deutschmark the dollar fell from DM2.7325 to DM2.7220. It was also slightly weaker against other European currencies, including the French franc. Against the franc, it eased 3 centimes to FR8.19. Starting rebounded later in the day after being hit by a big selling order early on, but it closed mixed. The rise in inflation revealed by the July retail prices figures was fully expected, but the pound eased against the Deutschmark although it firmed 35 points to \$1.4835 against the dollar. Its trade-weighted value was up 0.2 at 85.1. In the money markets, the Treasury bill rate showed a small increase over the week. Bills were allotted at an average rate of 89.3755 per cent compared with 89.3255 per cent a week ago. In the United States, wholesale prices edged up only one-tenth of 1 per cent in July, the Labour Department announced yesterday. This was a more moderate rise than in June and reflected lower food costs and a slowdown in energy prices. Wholesale prices, which indicate where consumer prices are heading, declined at a 0.7 per cent annual rate during the first seven months of 1983. Consumer prices have turned in a similarly good performance during this year. The latest projections by the Reagan Administration are that the consumer price index will advance only 3.1 per cent from the fourth quarter of last year to the final quarter of this year. The Administration considers that the dramatic downturn in inflation is a vindication of its economic policies of cutting taxes and federal government spending. But some of its critics hold that this policy has also led to the highest level of unemployment in the United States since the Second World War. July's small gains were largely the product of a 0.6 per cent drop in food prices and only 0.2 per cent gain in energy costs.

IMF calls talks on Argentine crisis

The International Monetary Fund has scheduled an emergency board meeting for Monday to review Argentine compliance with its programme, in an attempt to break the log jam over British banks participating in a \$1.5bn (£1bn) commercial bank loan for Argentina. The British Government has told British banks not to sign the loan until there is firm evidence that discriminatory financial sanctions against British companies in Argentina have been lifted. Non-discrimination is also an IMF condition and the board will review this issue. Government sources have said unofficially that once the IMF gives the all clear the Government will withdraw its objections to banks signing. There was strong indications yesterday that Argentina is now allowing British companies to take money out of the country, in line with the statement from the central bank vice-president, Señor Luis Mey, that all restriction on lifting profits and dividends had been removed. Government sources confirmed privately that there was firm evidence of this and that some had already removed money. About 80 companies are involved, but until this week only Lloyds Bank International had been able to take money out of the country. However, there was no official confirmation of this and

Simon bids £22m for Drake

Simon Engineering is bidding £22m in cash and shares for Drake & Scull, the mechanical electrical and instrument group whose profits have surged over the past three years. Over a similar period, Simon's profits have staggered along on a plateau, rising from £19.3m in 1980 to £20.7m by the end of 1982. Simon is bidding one of its own shares plus 342p cash for every six Drake shares. At Simon's price of 383p last night the offer values Drake shares at 120p each. Yesterday they rose 36 per cent to 115p. The takeover is agreed with the Drake board, headed by Sir Monty Finlayson, former British Steel chief executive, and directors have promised to accept with their 119,635 shares. Some Drake directors will join the Simon board when the offer goes through. Those Drake shareholders accepting the offer will keep the interim dividend of 1.25p per share declared for the year to the end of October. Drake's major institutional shareholders are Electra Investment Trust with 7 per cent and Norwich Union Insurance Group with 5.2 per cent. The two companies claim they complement each other at home and abroad. As part of Simon, Drake & Scull will be able to undertake larger contracts. Simon says it has long been its intention to widen its operating base into the industrial and engineering services group. It adds: "The merger with Drake & Scull will bring to Simon an acknowledged leader in the field of mechanical and electrical services, a sector which Simon believes will show growth".



Sir Monty: promised acceptance

Whittingham agrees bid

Comben Group, the Bristol-based estate developer, yesterday emerged as one of the mystery suitors for the William Whittingham, the Wolverhampton housebuilding group, with an agreed takeover bid worth £8.1m in cash. Whittingham announced that it had gone into takeover talks with two substantial companies a week ago after receiving an unwanted tender offer for up to 30 per cent of its shares at 63p a share from Mr Jim Raper's Military property group. Mr Raper's position on Comben's 130p a share bid was unclear last night but it was thought likely that he would be prepared to take a profit by selling to Comben the 9 per cent stake he built up in Whittingham before launching the tender offer. Comben's bid is conditional on Whittingham shareholders approving the sale of the company's 80 per cent interest in the film processing business, Colourtrend, to Dixon's Group for £3.2m. This sale was agreed between Whittingham and Dixon's two days ago. Colourtrend, which trades through offshoots such as Truprint and Flamingo Films, is a cash-rich business with net assets of £383m.

Family sells 52% stake in Ingram

The largest independent shareholder is the The Cornwell Estate, which holds 6.74 per cent. Mr Ingram refused to comment on the sale yesterday. On the stock market the share price reached 170p before closing at 160p, still 81p up on the day. Over the last three days the share price has trebled. The offer price at 65p, therefore, is unlikely to receive many acceptances. The main interest is the identity of the people behind Wasskon. Harold Ingram has just returned to profitable trading, after several years of losses. The much delayed 1981-82 report and accounts from troubled Sturla Holdings have a full page of auditors' qualifications. The qualifications say that Sturla, a hire purchase and leasing company, is dependent on the continuing support of its banks and big creditors to enable it to continue trading. Mr William Starkey, the company secretary, conceded that the qualifications were bad but said they were historic and that the 1982-83 accounts, expected in the autumn, would be much better though still qualified. The shares were suspended at 6p in March. After discussions with the Stock Exchange, the quota could be restored sometime after September's annual meeting. A quote should be possible now that the board membership and a Spanish property issue have been expanded, according to Mr David Britton, the new chairman. Mr Robert Knight, the previous chairman, was decisively voted off the board.

Shares rise in moderate trading

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Stocks were moving higher after overcoming some hesitancy in early trading. The Dow Jones industrial average was up about 3 points to 1,182 and advancing issues were about 8 to 5 ahead of declines. Trading was moderate. Miss Trude Latimer, vice-president at Evans Co, said: "The market, especially including the interest sensitive issues, is moving ahead nicely. It almost seems as though the bears, instead of waiting around for the expected bad money supply figures decided to take a long weekend. Moreover, more people now are looking at the M-2 and M-3 monthly figures which have been much more encouraging than M-1." Boeing was 40% up, United Technologies 67% up, Halliburton 41% up, Atlantic Richfield 47% up, Imperial Corp of America 13% up, VAL Inc 33% up, Fan-A-M 7 1/2% up. General Motors was up 1/2 at 68 1/2, Ford down 1/2 at 56 1/2, NCR down 1/2 at 119 1/2, International Business Machines up 1/2 at 118 1/2, Standard Oil Indiana up 1/2 to 51, Allied Corp up 1/2 at 50 1/2, International Paper up 1/2 at 51 1/2, Woolworth up 1/2 at 37 1/2, and James River up 1/2 at 33 1/2.

Brokers may file accounts

Stockbrokers and stockjobbers which survive the Stock Exchange changes intact are likely to have to disclose what they earn to the investing public. As a result of the chain reaction from the abolition of commissions firms may wish to limit their liability to their shareholders. If they do that, then by law they would have to file complete sets of annual accounts which would include profits and directors' salaries. They have similar legal obligations as the companies in whose shares they deal. As partnerships, they are required to file only annual returns, which show the names of directors and shareholders, but give no figures. Hoare Govett is one of the few brokers currently required to file accounts. Last year's share of the 40% employers earned an aggregate £6.5m in 1982, up from £5.19m the previous year. The lack of information has given rise to speculation guesses that some senior stockbrokers earn £1m a year. That is considered to be rare, but senior Stock Exchange traders believe about half a dozen of the senior partners earn £500,000 and a further dozen could be on £250,000. They confirm that £100,000 a year is not uncommon

Lotus back in profit with first-half £109,000

Lotus, the sports car company recently saved by a combination of Japanese and British financial support, is back in profit and, according to Mr Fred Bushell, its chairman, faces a future of growth and success. In the first half of this year, the group made pretax profits of £109,000 against losses in the same period of 1982 of £289,000. The profit would have been even better but for £148,000 of professional fees paid mainly to Guinness Mahon the merchant bank and Price Waterhouse, the accountants for helping to refinance the group. Prospects for the M90 two-seater sports car project, which Lotus directors hope will increase company sales to more than £50m-a-year within five years will be discussed by the newly-constituted board on Monday. Lotus could decide not to take a direct equity participation in the venture. For it could assemble the cars for a fee from the Japanese carmaker Toyota, which is also involved in the project. Mr Mike Kimberley, Lotus managing director, said yesterday that 7,500 of the cars could be sold annually. It would take two years to complete the engineering work and another two years to reach peak production.

Radical plan for £334bn Government assets

PSBR of £10,000m a year until 2010. The capital stock in the public sector dwarfs not only the sums in share sale issues such as BP and Britoil, but also comfortably exceeds the value of the Government's share of the north Sea's oil reserves. While a series of sale and leasebacks would inevitably mean an increase in Government's current expenditure on rentals, the proceeds of the sales would help to meet its short and medium-term revenue shortfalls. Mr Osborne said the Government's concern about the long-term upward trend in public spending - first highlighted in the leaked Think Tank study last autumn - would force it to consider more radical options. Public Sector Capital Stock at Current Replacement Cost

Leaseback 'cure' for PSBR

The Government's well-documented long-term public spending problems could be solved by selling only a portion of the "incredible" amounts of land and property owned by the public sector, claims a City economist. Publicly owned land and buildings were valued at £270,000m at the last official count, while machinery, vehicles and plant boosted total public sector assets to £334,000m - equivalent to 43 per cent of the total capital stock in the economy. Mr Michael Osborne, senior economist at think-tank Gries-von Grant, believes that the Government could meet its public sector borrowing require-

Sturla report qualified

The much delayed 1981-82 report and accounts from troubled Sturla Holdings have a full page of auditors' qualifications. The qualifications say that Sturla, a hire purchase and leasing company, is dependent on the continuing support of its banks and big creditors to enable it to continue trading. Mr William Starkey, the company secretary, conceded that the qualifications were bad but said they were historic and that the 1982-83 accounts, expected in the autumn, would be much better though still qualified. The shares were suspended at 6p in March. After discussions with the Stock Exchange, the quota could be restored sometime after September's annual meeting. A quote should be possible now that the board membership and a Spanish property issue have been expanded, according to Mr David Britton, the new chairman. Mr Robert Knight, the previous chairman, was decisively voted off the board.

City Editor's Comment Message from the signal box

Registration of insurance brokers, implemented in December 1981, gives the public important safeguards when it deals with insurance brokers who have had to provide evidence of their expertise and financial soundness to meet the requirements of the statutory Insurance Brokers Registration Council. This pronouncement by Mr Dickie Alexander, contained in the annual report of the British Insurance Brokers Association of which he is chairman, must have a decidedly hollow ring in the ears of Signal Life investors. Gibraltar-based Signal Life had a year ago owing investors more than £6.5m. Signal Life bonds were sold in this country by intermediaries, many of whom were Registered Insurance Brokers and members of BIBA, and many of whom failed to point out to their clients the elementary fact that investments in offshore insurance companies would not be covered by the Policyholders Protection Act. One wonders what "evidence of expertise" these brokers produced before being allowed to register as an insurance broker. Investors in Signal Life's gold bond fund have been fully reimbursed, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank which acted with commendable speed in fulfilling its obligations to policyholders. But the gilt bond fund had no trustee - a point on which many investors were misled by their insurance broker - and these people have lost everything. For these unfortunates their only hope of compensation is to successfully sue their broker for negligence. Then, and only then, can the IBRC "grants" scheme come into operation, or the broker's professional indemnity insurance be activated. Until the insurance broking industry gets a round to setting up an effective compensation fund talk of "important safeguards" is likely to be treated with the derision it deserves. Freeports' red herring Freeports may or may not be a useful way to encourage economic growth in the United Kingdom but their case has not been helped by a study published yesterday by the Adam Smith Institute. Its booklet, published yesterday, discusses the case for and against freeports but the arguments both for and against are undermined by a case study of the freeport which was set up a few years ago in Miami and has subsequently flourished. The appraisal of the Miami experiment suffered in large part because of the resemblance it bears to the publicity handouts which the Miami authorities are all too eager to thrust into the hands of any who are willing to receive them. The lesson of Miami, which the Adam Smith Institute ought legitimately to have pointed out, is not that its freeport has been successful, but rather that if the conditions for growth exist then the freeport can act as a focus. In other words, Miami was ripe for growth anyway. It is the place where the developing Latin American economies meet the monies of the Caribbean, and the wealth and power of the United States. With Washington looking south for the first time, Miami was bound to become more important, and the city is awash with cash. The same can not be said for Felixtowe, or Prestwick, or the airport at Aberdeen. All can make a strong case in British terms for having freeports status. But we have to decide what will work here, not what has worked in a different climate overseas.

MERCURY MONEY MARKET TRUST LIMITED OFFER FOR SUBSCRIPTION OF PARTICIPATING SHARES Shareholders of Mercury Money Market Trust Limited have approved resolutions enabling the Company to issue different classes of shares, in each of the currencies in the box below: The Company has an authorised share capital of £100,100 of which £27,400 was in issue on 3rd August, 1983. The Participating Shares of the Company are listed on The Stock Exchange. The purpose of the Company is to allow both companies and individuals investing a minimum of £1,000 to obtain a return close to that available in the short-term wholesale money market for the relevant currency. The Sterling Participating Shares of the Company have appreciated (with dividends reinvested) by 84.4% since September 1978 when they were first issued, giving an annualised rate of return of 13.36%, and by 10.7% in the last year. DEUTSCHEMARKS DUTCH GULDERS JAPANESE YEN STERLING SWISS FRANCS US DOLLARS The Company is a "roll-up" fund. The Directors do not in future propose to recommend the payment of any dividends and all income will be reinvested. On each business day holdings can normally be acquired or realised with no spread between subscription and redemption prices and may also be switched into shares of another class; the single dealing price will be quoted daily in the Financial Times (or the Times) for each class of share. Particulars of the Company are available in the Ext'd Statistical Services and may be obtained from S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd., 30 Gresham Street, London EC2P 2EB and Hoare Govett Limited, Heron House, 319-325 High Holborn, London WC1V 7PB. S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd. To Warburg Investment Management Jersey Limited, 39-41 Broad Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands. Please send me a copy of the current prospectus and an application form. Understand that investments may only be made on the basis of these documents. Name Address Postcode

FAMILY MONEY

Insurance-linked savings

Attractive return from building society schemes

The 26th issue of National Savings Certificates will be available from Monday. Paying 8.25 per cent tax-free over a five year term, they are an attractive proposition for anyone who pays higher rates of tax.

But there is an attractive alternative which is likely to show returns of more than 13 per cent over a four-year term - building society insurance-linked regular savings plans.

After the rise in building society rates last month, these schemes are showing estimated returns as high as 13.2 per cent. Though they are designed as regular savings schemes, they can be just useful for anyone with a lump sum to invest.

Annual or monthly premiums are paid on the policy and up to 96 per cent of the gross premiums goes straight into a building society account.

The investor is entitled to 15 per cent life assurance premium relief so that for £85 the saver gets £96 invested in a building society. The only condition is that the policy is not surrendered within four years. Earlier encashment will trigger "claw-back" of the life assurance relief which provides higher return.

Some building societies will accept a lump-sum investment, then use it to pay annual or monthly premiums on an insurance-linked scheme. Alternatively, a lump sum can buy a four-year annuity on which the payments provide the premiums on the life policy.

Best returns are achieved when the policy is cashed in after four years. Basic rate taxpayers will have no further liability but there is a liability to pay higher rates of tax and the investment income surcharge.

This is calculated on the difference between the gross premiums paid and the actual surrender value - that is, the

profit made. Basic rate tax has already been accounted for by the building society so a 45 per cent taxpayer will have a 15 per cent liability on the profits. But even taking this into account, a top rate taxpayer should still see a yield of more than 11 per cent.

The appeal of these schemes lies in the fact that the only risk one faces is that building society interest rates might decline. But if this happens, other interest rates will fall as well.

Royal Insurance offers contracts linked to a number of societies, but it is the policies linked to the smaller ones which generally show the best returns. The table shows the cash value and net yield on an investment in the Royal/Marsden Building Society scheme - one of the best at the moment. Others which regularly turn in a good performance are the Eagle Star/Breadford and Ringley scheme, and two Sun Life plans in conjunction with the City of London and Scottish building societies.

Schemes offering the lump-sum route (either building society deposit or temporary annuity) include Eagle Star, Guardian Royal Exchange, and Seminal. In addition, the Homeowners Friendly Society offers this facility. But with a friendly society, it is not possible to surrender the plan until the full 10-year term is up.

Table with 3 columns: Marsden Building Society, Cash Value, Net Yield pa. Rows include 4 years and 1 day, Aged 30 next, Aged 40 next, Aged 50 next, 7 years, Aged 30 next, Aged 40 next, Aged 50 next, 10 years, Aged 30 next, Aged 40 next, Aged 50 next.

Currencies

Dollar rise shows investors' peril

Lifting exchange controls may have liberated the British investor by extending the choice of locations and investment vehicles, but recent apprehension about the course of American interest rates and the dollar underscores how perilous is the world in which the investor has been cast adrift.

For the fact of the matter is that no investment should be made today, at home or abroad, without taking currency fluctuations into account. The huge and volatile flows of foreign exchange round the world - estimated at \$100,000m a day - are virtually uncontrollable under existing arrangements. In so far as the currency

system has a focus these days, all eyes are on the dollar. Crudely perceived, the mechanism works thus: higher American interest rates will enhance the attractiveness of investment in cash in dollars, if not in other instruments; other currencies correspondingly offer lower returns; eventually the markets and other authorities take steps to restore the competitive appeal of their currencies.

Recent figures have sometimes been dramatic. At various times the dollar has been worth DM2.6875, its strongest for a decade, has traded for FF8.0940, the highest ever, and touched £1.4720.

But therein lies the complication for British investors. While other currencies have depreciated against the dollar - the Japanese yen included - sterling has been dragged up by the dollar against these other currencies. The pound's trade-weighted index, which measures its overall competitiveness against the main trading partners, is higher than at the beginning of the year.

On the one hand, therefore, dollar interest rates look attractive to sterling investors. Interest rates of 9.75 per cent on seven-day money and 10.25 per cent for three-month deposits enjoy an edge over their British counterparts.

On the other hand, corrected for exchange rate movements, British investors would have done better at home over the last three months, earning almost 10 per cent on three-month money against less than half as much for the dollar.

Only a sharp depreciation of sterling against the dollar, or a widening of the interest rate differential, or a combination of the two, will alter the relationship in favour of sterling holders. While foreigners retain their faith in oil prices and British government policy there seems little chance of that happening. It might be safer to stay at home.

Michael Prest

Compensation Cameraman waiting for £12m verdict

A commercial photographer has lodged a £12m claim against the Thames Water Authority which could force a long-awaited High Court decision on the value which should be attached to lost or destroyed photographic transparencies.

The problem of valuing transparencies which go astray has never been properly resolved by photographers. The recommendation of the British Association of Picture Libraries and the Association of Fashion, Advertising and Editorial Photographers is that photographers should be reimbursed for losses on a scale of £250 to £400 for each transparency. But often these charges are disputed, with photographers and picture libraries being persuaded to take much less unless they are prepared to go to court.

This could all change if the case of Mr John Adams, a 50-year-old photographer, goes to the High Court. The claim relates to damage when Mr Adams' studio at Rumbold Place, London, W1, was flooded, destroying nearly 490,000 negatives.

Mr Adams claims that 20 years' work was destroyed by the flood, which, he says, was caused when workmen called to investigate a damp patch in his studio accidentally burst a mains water pipe.

"Eight or ten people were bailing out the water at one stage," he says. "It was at least one hour before the flood was stopped and water was still



Adams: bewildered at the loss of life's work

pouring through the basement walls two or three hours after that.

The incident happened last December, since then Mr Adams has made scant progress in winning compensation for the destruction of the negatives. His case is being handled by Claimguard Assessors International, a company of loss-assessors based in Swiss Cottage, London.

Thames Water has declined to comment beyond saying that the claim will be contested.

Mr Vik Tausig, of Claimguard, says that the case for £12m is being made on the grounds that each of the 490,000 negatives destroyed has a nominal value of £25. He said that even if the claim was assessed on the basis that one negative was lost from each of the 6,980 photographs assign-

ments undertaken by Mr Adams over the past 20 years it would total more than £2m.

The figures of £12m was determined after seeking advice from counsel. "If you take into account the time Mr Adams spent taking the pictures and the studio time spent in processing them the cost of £25 per negative is not unreasonable," Mr Tausig adds.

It is difficult to put a value on some of these negatives. "There are pictures of famous models, pop groups and a whole range of other pictures dating back years. In time, just one picture could be worth thousands of pounds."

The Association of Fashion, Advertising and Editorial Photographers sympathises, saying there is not really much appropriate case law to draw on.

Mr Mark Stephens, a solicitor who specialises in handling copyright cases, says there are three main considerations in trying to settle a case of this kind. First, there is the cost of replacing the damaged film and property. Second, there is the cost of reimbursing the photographer for the potentially huge revenue he could earn from exploiting the copyright. Third, the amount of compensation should be assessed differently to take into account the cost of re-shooting a film.

All those concerned, it appears, would welcome some guidance from the courts on how cases of this kind should be judged and whether an old negative is worthless, or an irreplaceable work of art.

But for that they may have to wait for Mr Adams and Thames Water to argue their case in the High Court.

SPECIAL COMPETITION OPPORTUNITY

Invest now in the two front runners who'll be in at the finish - TSB Extra Income and TSB Pacific Unit Trusts

UP TO 30% SINCE JAN 1ST 1983. £5,000 investment now worth £6,500*

FREE EXTRA UNITS FOR EARLY INVESTORS. Invest £750 or more in the TSB Investment Managers' Competition choice before 2nd September 1983 and we will add another 1% to your unitholding, at no additional cost to you. Make that £7,500 or more and we'll make it an extra 2%.

Here's an opportunity to join us in our bid to win the "Daily Telegraph" Unit Trust Managers' Competition, one of the highlights of the investment year.

Back in January, when Central Trustee Savings Bank, our Investment Managers, first entered the competition, they put their money on the TSB Extra Income and TSB Pacific Unit Trusts as the combination most likely to win.

And we're sure everyone who invested with us then must be smiling now.

Because these two trusts in combination are not only riding high in the Competition, but they've also achieved a total growth of 30% since January 1st - getting on for half as much again as the average among the other contestants.

But we're not just looking to December 31st this year. Looking further ahead, our Investment Managers firmly believe these two trusts offer excellent prospects for income and growth in the medium to long term.

So we believe you should make our choice your choice too. Moreover, we are offering extra units to all investors who take advantage of today's opportunity, before September 2nd 1983.

Because our investment team's choice for the Competition still is 40% Extra Income and 60% Pacific, we suggest you back the same combination.

The important thing to do is to return your Application Form before Friday, September 2nd.

What makes Extra Income work so well?

Launched in November 1982, the TSB Extra Income Unit Trust has since become one of the most successful unit trusts in our group.

With around £7 million invested in just nine months, Extra Income has, with income reinvested, achieved a capital growth of 35%. The current yield stands at 7.31%*

So, how will this trust perform in the future? Investing mainly in British equities, the trust concentrates on high yield 'recovery' stocks.

The Managers believe that, as the current upturn in world trade is sustained, those companies with slimmed down stocks and overheads should be able to produce dramatic improvements in their profits and dividends.

It is precisely this kind of company the Managers have looked for and invested in.

At present their choice includes major firms in the metals, engineering and financial sectors.

This kind of selection, which aims to improve our investors' income, should also continue to provide good prospects for capital growth in future years.

*Estimated as at August 11th 1983

What about the Pacific?

Investing primarily in Japan, with holdings in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and Australia, the TSB Pacific Unit Trust has always gone all out for long-term growth.

This policy has put this trust up in the top twenty of all trusts during the first seven months of this year.*

In Japan, where over two-thirds of the trust is invested, inflation is still being held at around 2%.

Moreover, the Managers expect the revival of world trade to produce a strong recovery in Japanese equities, and the country's trade surplus is growing strongly as world-wide export opportunities increase.

In short, the outlook there is excellent.

With their considerable experience of the other countries and markets of the Pacific, and with the backing

of a wealth of detailed research, the Managers are well-placed to spot opportunities for profit elsewhere in the region, and take them.

*Pharmax Saving Statistics, August 1983.

What does this combination offer?

Together, these two unit trusts offer an ideal investment combination. Extra Income offers a consistently high level of income, with some capital growth, designed to protect the value of your investment. Reinvestment of the income will have the effect of substantially enhancing the overall growth.

Pacific aims to achieve a high level of long-term capital appreciation.

Moreover, both of them are managed by Central Trustee Savings Bank, whose investment management department is staffed by seasoned professionals whose sole responsibility is the management of investment funds. Total funds under CTSB's management exceed £700 million.

Invest with us today. If you want to share in the fortunes of the TSB's Competition Unit Trusts, invest with us today.

Send us a single cheque for £750 or more, to reach us before September 2nd and, at no extra cost to you, we will add a further 1% to your unit-holdings. Make that £7,500 and we'll increase that to 2% more free units in each trust.

Remember, the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

Though this combination of trusts has been chosen for the 1983 competition, we believe it offers long-term prospects just as good as those for 1983 alone.

You should, therefore, regard your investment as being a medium to long term one.

SWITCHING YOUR INVESTMENT. If, before the end of the year, the Managers decide to switch their entry in the 'Daily Telegraph' competition into another trust or trusts, you will be notified by letter, and you will be given the opportunity to switch your investment on a similar basis on generous terms. This service is available only during 1983, and only to those investing through this offer.

FAMILY MONEY MARKET

Banks. Current account - no interest paid. Deposit accounts - Midland, Barclays, Lloyds, Natwest 6 per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. Lloyds extra interest 9 1/2 per cent. Natwest 9 1/2 per cent. Fixed term deposits £2,500-£25,000 - 1, 3 and 6 months 8 1/2 per cent. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

National Savings Certificates 26th issue. Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 8.25 per cent, maximum investment £5,000. National Savings Income Bond. Min investment £2,000 - max £20,000. Interest - 11 per cent increasing to 11 1/2 per cent from 4 Sept variable at six weeks notice - paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 or 6 months notice - check penalties.

Local authority yielding bonds 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 10 1/2 per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers). The Association of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-630 7401, after 3 pm). See also on Prestal no 24908.

Local authority town hall bonds. Fixed term, fixed rate investments. Interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). 1 year Kingston upon Hull 10 1/2 per cent. 2-4 years Hammersmith and Fulham 10 1/2 - 11 1/2 per cent. 5 years Kingston upon Hull 11 1/2 per cent. 6-9 years Taff Ely 11 1/2 per cent. 10 years Wokingham 11 per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-630 7401, after 3 pm). See also on Prestal no 24908.

Finance house deposits (FHD). Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits. Interest paid without deductions of tax. Five-Fifty scheme: 6 months 10 1/2 per cent; 1 year, 10 per cent; 2 years, 10 1/2 per cent. Foreign currency deposits. Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court Ltd, Reserves 0467 25741, seven days notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies.

US dollar 8.57 per cent. Yen 5.55 per cent. D.Mark 4.91 per cent. Swiss Franc 3.42 per cent.

Table with 2 columns: Fund Name, Rate. Includes Admiral Home, National Savings Bank, etc.

National Savings Bank. Ordinary accounts - interest 3 per cent, first £70 of interest tax-free. Investment Account - 1 1/2 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £200,000.

Building societies. Ordinary share accounts - 7.25 per cent. Term shares - 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 per cent and 1 per cent over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes - 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate.

US dollar 8.57 per cent. Yen 5.55 per cent. D.Mark 4.91 per cent. Swiss Franc 3.42 per cent. June RPI: 234.7 (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month.)

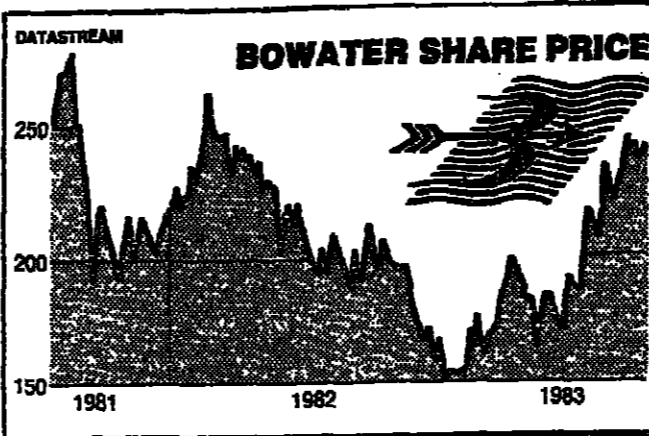
TSB UNIT TRUSTS advertisement. Includes TSB logo, text about investment opportunities, and contact information for Andrew Ferguson, TSB Unit Trusts Limited, Keens House, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1PG. Telephone (0264) 62188.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including LONDON METAL EXCHANGE, RUBBER, SUGAR, and LONDON GOLD FUTURES MARKET.

Bid talk echoes in Bowater forests

Like old soldiers good rumours never die. For the better part of a decade the City has been entertained spasmodically by the notion that someone, somewhere, wants to take over Bowater, the paper maker. This particular tale appears to be enjoying renewed currency.



Bowater's assets, its million acres, not to mention the paper mills, are worth up to £10 a share. For precisely that reason, however, a bid could suddenly become a very expensive affair.

already signs of strain in Bermuda with problems at AJAX and Walton, as well as rumours surrounding other well-known re-insurers. The most important components of the Bermudian industry are the captive companies established by the multinational for cheap insurance with tax benefits.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Table of company news including Anglo American Securities, Northgate Exploration, and Inch Kenneth Kelang Rubber.

Close and nervous attention to the share register has not so far disclosed untoward movements, and, perhaps nevertheless, the very persistence of the rumour tends to induce more rather than less scepticism. Nor can anything definite be gleaned from the share price, as the chart shows.

So what is the argument for a possible bid? In general terms it is that Bowater, sufferer from huge assets and lowish profits, is recovering from the bottom of the cycle.

The true strength of the company, however, can be seen in its financial position. While so many British companies are still labouring under high gearing, Prestige is a net earner of interest. Its powerful cash flow means that after paying out some £7m for the extraordinary dividend the company could still have more cash at the end of 1982.

This advertisement is issued in compliance with the Regulations of The Stock Exchange.

Nationwide Building Society advertisement featuring a logo and text about placing of £12,500,000 11 1/4 per cent Bonds due 20th August 1984.

Reinsurance

The disaster which struck the Spanish tanker, Castillo de Bellver, off South Africa last week may be one of the last nails in the coffin of the cut-price re-insurance merchants which have dogged the marine market.

Merrydown sales up

The chairman of Merrydown Wine, Mr Ian Howie, says in his annual statement that, since the year end, cider sales have continued to move ahead. At the end of four months they were showing a healthy rise over the equivalent period last year.

Prestige

Half-year to 30.6.83 Pretax profit £2.18m (2.36m) Turnover £30.2m (27.3m) Net interest dividend 27.5p Share price 230p Yield 3.77 Dividend payable 6.10.83

Ault cuts dividend after loss

Ault & Wiborg Group, the London-based ink makers, yesterday cut its half-time dividend as it slid into the red. On a turnover virtually unchanged at £31.6m, the group's trading profits dropped from £1.6m for the six months to the end of June to £79,000.

In the stock market the shares plunged 9p at one point before recovering to end the day 6p lower at 33p. Ault & Wiborg has been carrying out rationalization for the past three years. Closure costs have been shown in the first-half figures since 1981.

IN BRIEF

- List of brief news items including Rank's £14.2m sale, negotiations for transfer of ownership of Coverwell Roofing, and a £1.5m sale of a subsidiary of Ruberoid.

Large table of financial data including Unit Trust Prices - change on the week, and various market indices and company performance metrics.

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, including 'Japan shock', 'Still m...', 'CHEE 82', and 'Still m...'.

Japan imports shock for UK

By John Lawless

British exports to Japan were worth only 58.2 per cent of their 1981 value in the last financial year, a study from the Japanese Finance Ministry claims.

The ministry, working on its own import statistics for the year ending in March, says only oil-supplying Kuwait did worse, with 36.8 per cent.

The claim staggered British specialists. Mr David Morris, an economist with the London-based Anglo-Japanese Economic Institute, said yesterday: "We went back to inquire whether it was a printing error, but they said it was correct."

Japanese officials used US dollars for their comparison, and movements against the yen were thought partially responsible for declines by most countries.

But Department of Trade and Industry specialists simply could not believe Tokyo's claim.

Japan's valuation of annual British sales to the end of March, at \$1,578m bore no relation to reports from HM Customs.

Sales in the first three months of this year dipped to £172m, but the 1.7 per cent decline was nothing near enough to bring about the massive decline claimed by Japan.

It was left to Mr Ron Howe, head of the DOTI's Exports to Japan Unit, to solve the mystery of the missing millions. "Japan's trade figures for the first three months of 1982 included purchases of \$357m worth of monetary gold", he said yesterday. "In the same period this year, they were worth \$93m."

"That one item declined by 74 per cent, sufficient to pull imports from the United Kingdom down 42 per cent (to 58 per cent of their 1981 value).

Tarmac in £9m deal to strengthen new policy

By Jonathan Clare

Tarmac is continuing its drive into the aggregates business in the south east of England with the acquisition of Charlton Sand and Ballast for £9.6m.

The company embarked on a policy of gradually strengthening its business in the south east three years ago with the acquisition of Francis Aggregates. Previously it had concentrated on the Midlands, North and Scotland.

Tarmac has also been increasing the emphasis on sand and gravel extraction rather than quarrying stone. It is expected to announce more aggregate acquisitions next week.

Aggregate businesses need to be close to big population centres where there is heavy demand for building materials to make them cost effective. Aggregates are a finite resource and prices of quarrying operations have risen sharply, especially in the south east.

The cost of Charlton is equivalent to its net asset value, which includes planning permission for further exploitation of its resources. The company is based at Shepperton, Middlesex.

Tarmac's quarry business saw a big upsurge last year, and it contributed almost 60 per cent of group profits. It turned in trading profits of £41.4m against £25.5m the year before.

Some of the improvement was the result of first-time contribution from Hoveringham and its associated aggregate businesses which Tarmac acquired.

The heavens open but sun shines on British hopes

No ducking a challenge as Thompson dives in

From David Miller, Helsinki



The rain is running off my umbrella on to the desk, and thence in a gentle trickle into my shoe. Let no one say this job is all day. The normal Finnish summer returned today after the unprecedented warmth of the past week. But by the evening there was a glowing sunset of optimism for British interest, as the redoubtable Daley Thompson took a 120 points first-day lead over his West German adversary, Jurgen Hingsen, in the 10 labours of the decathlon.

The weather could hardly have been more discouraging for this superman trying to hide a nagging groin strain, and through the arduous nine hours of competition neither man was close to his world record - Thompson's memorably in Athens last year, Hingsen's two months ago in his national trials. Yet the turning point of another absorbing duel between these two remarkable athletes may well have been Hingsen's tactical error in the high jump.

The huge German did not attempt at 2.03 metres, failed at 2.06m on three attempts - his best jump is 2.18m and he cleared 2.15m in his recent record - so his clearance at 2.00m left him 25

points behind Thompson's 2.03m clearance. On his third failure at 2.06m Hingsen snatched irritably, with reason, at his track suit as the jury of 50,000 umbrellas peered at him with that knowing, impassive stare.

After the heatwave, we had woken to low, grey, dense skies, yet the stadium was almost full and the rain just starting as the decathlon men slotted into their blocks for the 100 metres, while breakfast was still being served in the youth hotels. The seeded fast men got down: Hingsen, jumpy, false-started. Doubts about Thompson's fitness, eased as he came down the red ribbon of track looking tense but full of that customary bounding power. A much as the suitcase your average jumper takes to Benidorm, and leaves it 15.35 metres only 10cm short of his best. He indulges in the festive, smug look of a schoolboy who has scrawled a rude message on the blackboard. Hingsen, each shoulder bigger than the shot nestling under his chin. From now on, when he can manage only 15.66 metres, against a best of 16.08m, and even more so when he fouls fractionally on a big second throw.

Over to the long jump pit, where both men excel. On his first attempt Thompson no-jumps, frowns, and walks back with a shrug which says "don't worry, I'm all right". Hingsen manages 7.75m. Thompson's second, off a fine, rhythmic run, is



Thompson: maintaining the edge

7.88m for a 25 point advantage, and he does not bother to take his third. Hingsen does, after a second no-jump. It is 7.71m, and he throws down two handfuls of sand. After two events Thompson is 114 points ahead.

The shot-put should belong to Hingsen. On his first throw, Thompson selects a yellow ball from the choice of several, each of which weighs about as much as the suitcase your average jumper takes to Benidorm, and leaves it 15.35 metres only 10cm short of his best. He indulges in the festive, smug look of a schoolboy who has scrawled a rude message on the blackboard. Hingsen, each shoulder bigger than the shot nestling under his chin. From now on, when he can manage only 15.66 metres, against a best of 16.08m, and even more so when he fouls fractionally on a big second throw.

WALL STREET

Symbol	Price	Symbol	Price	Symbol	Price
AMT	102.00	IBM	100.00	MSFT	35.00
AT&T	48.00	INTL	25.00	DISC	28.00
AXP	45.00	JNJ	45.00	DUK	38.00
BAC	35.00	KODK	35.00	GE	35.00
BOJ	35.00	MRK	35.00	GM	35.00
BP	35.00	ORCL	35.00	HR	35.00
BSX	35.00	PG	35.00	INTL	35.00
CA	35.00	RF	35.00	MSFT	35.00
CC	35.00	SHL	35.00	DISC	35.00
CE	35.00	T	35.00	DUK	35.00
CF	35.00	W	35.00	GE	35.00
CG	35.00	X	35.00	GM	35.00
CH	35.00	Y	35.00	HR	35.00
CI	35.00	Z	35.00	INTL	35.00
CJ	35.00	AA	35.00	MSFT	35.00
CK	35.00	AB	35.00	DISC	35.00
CL	35.00	AC	35.00	DUK	35.00
CM	35.00	AD	35.00	GE	35.00
CN	35.00	AE	35.00	GM	35.00
CO	35.00	AF	35.00	HR	35.00
CP	35.00	AG	35.00	INTL	35.00
CQ	35.00	AH	35.00	MSFT	35.00
CR	35.00	AI	35.00	DISC	35.00
CS	35.00	AJ	35.00	DUK	35.00
CT	35.00	AK	35.00	GE	35.00
CU	35.00	AL	35.00	GM	35.00
CV	35.00	AM	35.00	HR	35.00
CW	35.00	AN	35.00	INTL	35.00
CX	35.00	AO	35.00	MSFT	35.00
CY	35.00	AP	35.00	DISC	35.00
CZ	35.00	AQ	35.00	DUK	35.00
DA	35.00	AR	35.00	GE	35.00
DB	35.00	AS	35.00	GM	35.00
DC	35.00	AT	35.00	HR	35.00
DD	35.00	AV	35.00	INTL	35.00
DE	35.00	AW	35.00	MSFT	35.00
DF	35.00	AX	35.00	DISC	35.00
DG	35.00	AY	35.00	DUK	35.00
DH	35.00	AZ	35.00	GE	35.00
DI	35.00	BA	35.00	GM	35.00
DJ	35.00	BB	35.00	HR	35.00
DK	35.00	BC	35.00	INTL	35.00
DL	35.00	BD	35.00	MSFT	35.00
DM	35.00	BE	35.00	DISC	35.00
DN	35.00	BF	35.00	DUK	35.00
DO	35.00	BG	35.00	GE	35.00
DP	35.00	BH	35.00	GM	35.00
DQ	35.00	BI	35.00	HR	35.00
DR	35.00	BJ	35.00	INTL	35.00
DS	35.00	BK	35.00	MSFT	35.00
DT	35.00	BL	35.00	DISC	35.00
DU	35.00	BM	35.00	DUK	35.00
DV	35.00	BN	35.00	GE	35.00
DW	35.00	BO	35.00	GM	35.00
DX	35.00	BP	35.00	HR	35.00
DY	35.00	BQ	35.00	INTL	35.00
DZ	35.00	BR	35.00	MSFT	35.00
EA	35.00	BS	35.00	DISC	35.00
EB	35.00	BT	35.00	DUK	35.00
EC	35.00	BU	35.00	GE	35.00
ED	35.00	BV	35.00	GM	35.00
EE	35.00	BW	35.00	HR	35.00
EF	35.00	BX	35.00	INTL	35.00
EG	35.00	BY	35.00	MSFT	35.00
EH	35.00	BZ	35.00	DISC	35.00
EI	35.00	CA	35.00	DUK	35.00
EJ	35.00	CB	35.00	GE	35.00
EK	35.00	CC	35.00	GM	35.00
EL	35.00	CD	35.00	HR	35.00
EM	35.00	CE	35.00	INTL	35.00
EN	35.00	CF	35.00	MSFT	35.00
EO	35.00	CG	35.00	DISC	35.00
EP	35.00	CH	35.00	DUK	35.00
EQ	35.00	CI	35.00	GE	35.00
ER	35.00	CJ	35.00	GM	35.00
ES	35.00	CK	35.00	HR	35.00
ET	35.00	CL	35.00	INTL	35.00
EU	35.00	CM	35.00	MSFT	35.00
EV	35.00	CN	35.00	DISC	35.00
EW	35.00	CO	35.00	DUK	35.00
EX	35.00	CP	35.00	GE	35.00
EY	35.00	CQ	35.00	GM	35.00
EZ	35.00	CR	35.00	HR	35.00
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FE	35.00	CW	35.00	GE	35.00
FF	35.00	CX	35.00	GM	35.00
FG	35.00	CY	35.00	HR	35.00
FH	35.00	CZ	35.00	INTL	35.00
FI	35.00	DA	35.00	MSFT	35.00
FJ	35.00	DB	35.00	DISC	35.00
FK	35.00	DC	35.00	DUK	35.00
FL	35.00	DD	35.00	GE	35.00
FM	35.00	DE	35.00	GM	35.00
FN	35.00	DF	35.00	HR	35.00
FO	35.00	DG	35.00	INTL	35.00
FP	35.00	DH	35.00	MSFT	35.00
FQ	35.00	DI	35.00	DISC	35.00
FR	35.00	DJ	35.00	DUK	35.00
FS	35.00	DK	35.00	GE	35.00
FT	35.00	DL	35.00	GM	35.00
FU	35.00	DM	35.00	HR	35.00
FV	35.00	DN	35.00	INTL	35.00
FW	35.00	DO	35.00	MSFT	35.00
FX	35.00	DP	35.00	DISC	35.00
FY	35.00	DQ	35.00	DUK	35.00
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GY	35.00	EQ	35.00	MSFT	35.00
GA	35.00	ER	35.00	DISC	35.00
GB	35.00	ES	35.00	DUK	35.00
GC	35.00	ET	35.00	GE	35.00
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GG	35.00	EX	35.00	MSFT	35.00
GH	35.00	EY	35.00	DISC	35.00
GI	35.00	FZ	35.00	DUK	35.00
GJ	35.00	GA	35.00	GE	35.00
GK	35.00	GB	35.00	GM	35.00
GL	35.00	GC	35.00	HR	35.00
GM	35.00	GD	35.00	INTL	35.00
GN	35.00	GE	35.00	MSFT	35.00
GO	35.00	GF	35.00	DISC	35.00
GP	35.00	GG	35.00	DUK	35.00
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GS	35.00	GJ	35.00	HR	35.00
GT	35.00	GK	35.00	INTL	35.00
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GV	35.00	GM	35.00	DISC	35.00
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GA	35.00	GQ	35.00	HR	35.00
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RACING: ENGLISH RAIDERS CHASE THE FRANCS AT DEAUVILLE

Cecil-Piggott double act steals the show

Henry Cecil and Lester Piggott were on a crest at Newbury yesterday when they joined forces to win both the Huntington Stakes and the Washington Singer Stakes...

Khairpour can put youngsters to rout

YAWA and Castle Rising, two likely contenders for this year's St Leger, will meet for the second time this season in the Geoffrey Freer Stakes at Newbury today...

Crystal Glitters to outshine British

The French have an excellent chance of repelling this weekend's challenge of English horses at Deauville where the feature event will be Sunday's group one Prix Jacques Le Marois...

Fiscal fisticuffs add to the heat

Signs all over this newly refurbished \$185m, garishly decorated, twinkling, noisy place of pleasure and aviaric proclama...

O'Brien colts in switch

In a surprise change of plan Vincent O'Brien has revised his York targets for his two fine colts, Caeleon and Solford...

Newbury

Racing results for Newbury including 2.0 ST HUGH'S STAKES (2-y-o fillies) and 2.30 GEORGEY FREER STAKES (Group 2).

Results from Newbury

Continuation of racing results from Newbury, including 2.0 SPARKLET STAKES (2-y-o maiden) and 2.30 DAILY MIRROR HANDICAP.

Ripon

Racing results for Ripon including 1.45 FULLRAVEN HANDICAP (2:17.25) and 2.30 BAYFORD FUELS HORN BLOWER STAKES.

Victory '83 limps in

Newport, Rhode Island (AP) - Victory '83 and Australia II chalked up wins on the opening day of the America's Cup...

Bangor-on-Dee

Racing results for Bangor-on-Dee including 2.15 ABERGELLY HURDLE (Stalling) and 2.45 RHYL CHASE.

Wolverhampton

Racing results for Wolverhampton including 2.15 CHARITY STAKES (2-y-o maidens) and 2.45 YOUNGSTERS STAKES.

Market Rasen

Racing results for Market Rasen including 2.30 STAMFORD HURDLE (4-y-o selling) and 4.00 AUGUST CHASE.

Final try at Locko

Ginny Strawson, the champion young rider of Europe, is still recovering from a fall she suffered a fortnight ago...

Errors hit Canada

Edmonton, Canada (AP) - British golfers took advantage of Marlene Sire's putting problems and Mary Ann McPherson's errors to defeat Canada 4-2 on the opening day...

MOTOR RACING: PREVIEWING TOMORROW'S AUSTRIAN GRAND PRIX

Circuit that is a boost for turbos

By John Blunsden

Unless there is a repeat of last year, when the turbocharged cars failed through mechanical fragility or driver misfortune, tomorrow's Austrian Grand Prix is sure to be dominated by turbo teams.

The long, fast curves of the Österreichring and substantial straights, which include a steep climb from the starting line, are even better suited to the turbo than the Hockenheimring, on which they were in a class of their own last weekend.

Regardless of the qualifying, when the make-up of the starting grid comes as much to the decision of team managers on how far the turbo boost should be turned up for that important flying lap as it does to a team's race prospects, the final issue is likely to involve Ferrari, Renault and Brabham-BMW.

Ferrari have their tails up, with two victories by Arnoux in the last three races and high reliability, despite Tambay's ignition trouble last weekend. And Renault will be keen to prove that their engine problems - from which John Player Lotus suffered - were but a passing incident and that Prost's nine-point lead in the world championship can be protected and even extended.

For Parmalat Brabham, too, last weekend was depressing. Piquet's likely second place was taken from him in the closing laps because of a leaking fuel

valve, causing his car to burst into flames. Lotus could repeat their surprise 1982 victory. They have the power to do it and, as Nigel Mansell proved during his drive through the field at Silverstone last month, have a highly competitive chassis.

Given badly needed reliability, Lotus could repeat their surprise 1982 victory. They have the power to do it and, as Nigel Mansell proved during his drive through the field at Silverstone last month, have a highly competitive chassis.

The other main contender tomorrow could be Alfa Romeo. They have had abundant power all season but until recently lacked reliability and consistency. They led convincingly in Belgium, on a circuit similar to the Österreichring, and last weekend they found stamina, which enabled De Cesaris to claim a worthy second place.

The Ferrari turbos of the Frenchmen, Arnoux and Tambay, dominated yesterday's first official practice. Arnoux's time was 1 minute 29.9ths seconds, and Tambay's 1 minute 30.35ths seconds. Another Frenchman, Prost was third in a turbo-powered Renault and Britain's Mansell fourth in his third outing in the new Lotus Renault.

The superiority of the turbos was, if anything, greater than in practice for last week's West



Arnoux thumbs up for the team with their tails up

German Grand Prix. Behind Cheever, who was fifth in a Renault Turbo, came seven more turbos - two Brabhams, two Alfa Romeos, two Tolmans and an ATS BMW - before the day's best non-turbo, a McLaren driven by Niki Lauda, of Austria.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Maoris' first tour

By Keith Macklin

The New Zealand Maoris will make history when they make their first visit to England in October for a tour organized by the British Amateur Rugby League Association. Maori players have been successful in past New Zealand tours playing in international tournaments at professional level, but this will be the first tour by a pure chosen totally from Maori players.

The 21-man party will include 11 full internationals and six of the players who were in the New Zealand team which beat the world Rugby League champions, Australia, last month in Brisbane, one of the most surprising results of the past.

The standard of the touring party will be so high that Britain's amateurs will do well to compete effectively against them. Barrow, Cumberland, York and Oldham Amateur Leagues, and the finale will be an international game against Great Britain at the Boulevard, Hull.

played for English professional clubs: Dean Bell and Ian Bell for Carlisle and Ron O'Regan for Barrow. The full back, Nick Wright, and Dean Bell who plays in the centre, Maori players have been successful in past New Zealand tours playing in international tournaments at professional level, but this will be the first tour by a pure chosen totally from Maori players.

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Modern athletics: the mysteries and the manipulations

Blood and intrigue on the tracks

Those of us who had thought that athletics is the one pure and simple sport left, a simple matter of running faster or chucking odd bit of metal further than the other chaps, cannot have failed to notice that athletics has come of age this season. Money, readily comprehensible nastiness, and utterly baffling jargon now rule.

Which reminds me: you must understand that I do not intend to write at my best today, for I am on a scientifically devised schedule which will enable me to peak in time to write an absolute blinder on the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in the autumn.

This, by the way, is a horse race, and, as such celebrated gentlemen as Pigott, Caution, Carson and Cook could all tell you, if you are considered to have transgressed the rules of racing by interfering, however unfortunately, with the other runners, then the weight of the law falls upon you.

But all these win-hungry jockeys would be considered legitimate as long as they are as angelic as Britain's own Saint Sebastian, that long-time sufferer from the arrows of outrageous fortune, were they to employ similar tactics to those that brought about their recent suspensions in the sport of foot racing. Running has become so, ah, competitive that up-to-date coaching films will have to be marketed as video nasties.

Which brings us to Steve Overt, that most gentle of gentlemen, hurdlings fallen runners and charging about with a boot full of blood, a veritable emblem of athletics today, for all that he is a man who knows in his heart that in such cases it is more blessed to give than to receive.

And that brings us to the tale of Nick Rose; Oh Rose, thou art sick as a parrot after the Helsinki final of the 10,000 metres, a race he described as a dog fight. "It was that so and so Kedir," he is reported to have said, rather temperately I thought, afterwards. "At one stage I raised my fist at him and swore."

When athletics is not about blood-enraged spikes and men with elbow-knife fire it is concerned with incomprehensible ailments. Athlete after athlete reports such problems as wrenched locknuts, bruised stifles, and poor old Seb seems to have been bitten by a lymph. For my money, the athletics picture of the year is of Overt yanking his shorts up round his waist in order to investigate his latest injury.

At one time the point of athletics was to settle the argument about who is the best; now the sport is a contest to discover who can juggle his schedule the best, so as to compete in the maximum number of races without coming across anyone who might beat him. Cram yelled with public anguish and told us how wrong it was for

TENNIS

Miss Durie through

Jo Durie reached the last eight of the Virginia Slims tournament in Manhattan Beach, California, with a 7-5, 6-4 win over Anne White, of the United States, in a meeting on August 11. She was aided by Chris Lloyd, her friend and fellow American, JoAnne Russell, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.

Mrs. Lloyd's conqueror at this year's Wimbledon, Kathy Jordan, found Martina Navratilova, the Wimbledon champion, a different proposition, losing 6-1, 6-0 in 46 minutes. Miss Navratilova, whose next opponent is Wendy White, conceded only five points in the second set.

Miss White unexpectedly beat the No. 5 seed, Wendy Turnbull, of Australia, 6-4, 6-7, 7-6. Miss Turnbull appeared to be on her way to victory after winning the second set tie-break 7-0. But Miss White forced her opponent to another tie-break in the third set, winning it 8-6. The match lasted two hours 18 minutes.

There was another surprise when Alycia Moulton, of the United States, beat the regulation applied to women's tennis in a public training session, using Australian tackle shields. An official from the Rugby League will be present.

There has to be a logical reason for this curious state of affairs, in which our prime sportsmen are so seriously tested against itself. We all know that there is now money to be earned in athletics, but mere cash for running cannot be the whole story. Take Golden Fleece.

Golden Fleece won the Derby in 1982 and there then, at the tender age of three, his racing career ended. Never again did he risk getting beaten. Were his connexions simply content with the prize money they had collected from the Derby? Reader, they were not. Prize money is but loose change compared to the money that can be earned once a racing career is over.

Why then would our leading athletes risk running against each other, when there is so much hope for the future at stake? For cash earned by running must be a mere pleasant bonus to collect along the way when you consider the earnings potential of our brave boys when their running days are over. Just think what they would be able to earn at stud.

Simon Barnes

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and IN MEMORIAM

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Saturday

Television and radio programmes

Sunday

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

- 6.25 Open University (until 8.55): 4.55 Physics: Plasma: Leo... 10.55 Grandstand: Cricket/Athletics...

TV-am

- 6.25 Good Morning Britain: with Tony Arthur, John Noakes... 6.40 Summer News: The guest is singer Paul Young...

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 LWT Information: What's on in the area this weekend... 12.15 World of Sport: The line-up for 12.20 Athletics...



Helsinki commentators: From left, Adrian Metcalfe, Ron Clarke, Ron Hill and Alan Peacock (ITV, World of Sport)

BBC 2

- 6.25 Open University (until 8.55): 6.25 Film: Bang! You're Dead (1953): Drama, directed by Lance Comfort...

CHANNEL 4

- 2.45 Rascal: A compilation of sequences from the short comedy films starring the abstract 'Our Gang'...

BBC 1

- 6.25 Open University (until 8.55): Begins with Electronic Music and ends (starting at 8.30) with Thetis in Organic Synthesis... 9.00 Cambridge Quiz: 9.15 Knock Knock...

TV-am

- 7.15 Rub-a-Dub-Tube: for the younger viewer. Chameleons, cats, stories, cartoons and a railway journey... 8.15 Good Morning Britain: News bulletin at 8.15 and 8.22...

ITV/LONDON

- 8.25 LWT Information: What's on in the area this weekend... 10.00 Morning Worship: from the parish church of St Margaret's...



Leslie Ash and Philip Brotherton in Maggie Brooke's 'The Balance of Nature' (TV, 10.00pm)

BBC 2

- 6.25 Open University (until 1.00): 1.55 Film: The Yearling (1945): Sentimental, moving and beautifully photographed...

CHANNEL 4

- 2.30 Film: China Seas (1935): Adventure yarn, with Clark Gable as the skipper of a cargo ship...

Radio 4

- 6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 News: Five-minute Today. 6.50 In Perspective: Religious affairs...

Jack Carr, Dennis Blanch, Andy... 8.45 Travels Through Babel. Tim Sebastian tells of his recent trip to Turkey...

Radio 3

- 7.55 Schubert: Piano Concerto. 8.00 Schubert: Piano Concerto. 8.15 Schubert: Piano Concerto...

TONIGHT'S PROM

- 7.30 Schubert: Symphony No 5 in B-flat major. 8.30 Messiah: Das Lied von der Birne...

Radio 1

- 6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 News: Morning News. 6.55 Weather: Travel. 7.00 News: 7.10 Sunday Papers...

Radio 4

- 6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 News: Morning News. 6.55 Weather: Travel. 7.00 News: 7.10 Sunday Papers...

Radio 3

- 7.55 Schubert: Piano Concerto. 8.00 Schubert: Piano Concerto. 8.15 Schubert: Piano Concerto...

TONIGHT'S PROM

- 7.30 Bach: St John Passion. Part 1. 8.30 Part Two: Taverner: Choir and Tenor: Vermeer: Piano...

Radio 1

- 6.25 Shipping Forecast. 6.30 News: Morning News. 6.55 Weather: Travel. 7.00 News: 7.10 Sunday Papers...

WORLD SERVICE

- 6.00am News: 6.30 Countdown. 7.00am News: 7.09 News: 7.20 News: 7.30 News...

SC4

- Starts 2.55 Usher Landscape. 3.20 News: 3.30 News: 3.40 News...

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

- CHANNEL As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

TYNE TEES

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

YORKSHIRE

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

BBC1

- WALLES 10.30-11.15pm Berlin 'Trottoir' Out: Wyford Vaughan-Thomas's personal impressions of the city of Berlin...

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

- GRANADA As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

BORDER

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

ANGLIA

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

GRAMPIAN

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

HTV WEST

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

ANGLIA

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

HTV WALES

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

TSW

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

ULSTER

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

HTV WALES

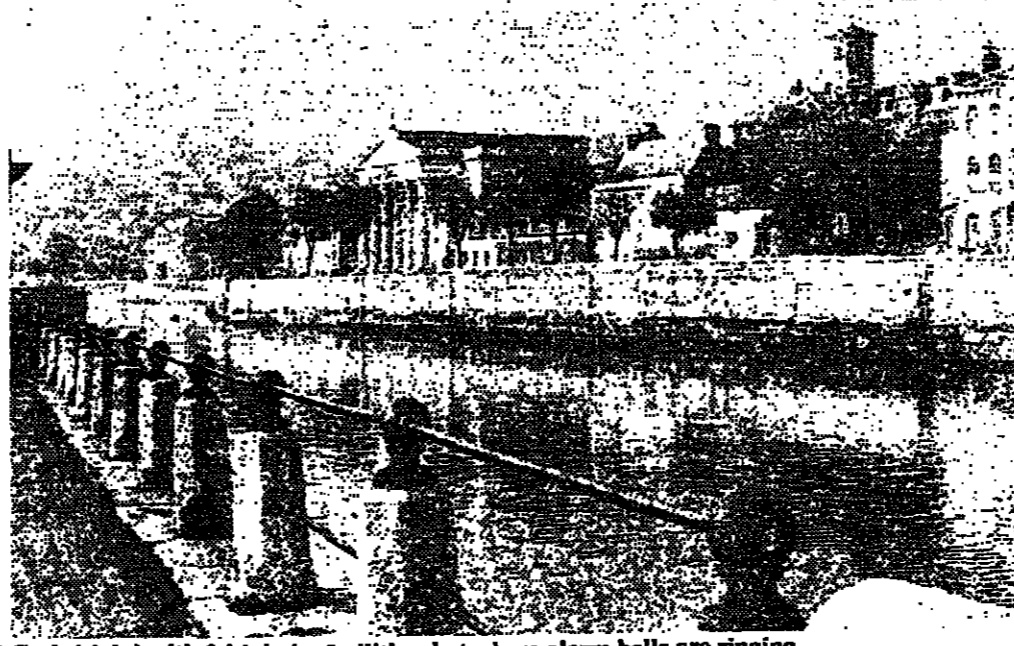
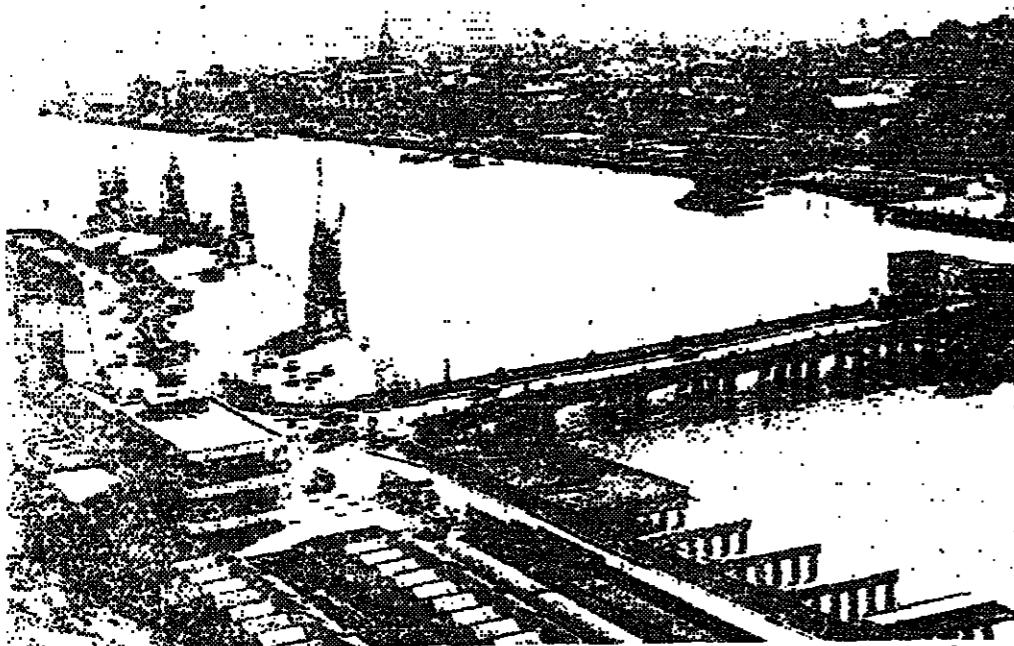
- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

CENTRAL

- As London except: 9.25am Springwatch. 9.30am Springwatch...

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Waterford v Cork and the fear of Sodom v Gomorrah



Unbridgeable gap: Waterford, the Cinderella city with the political muscle, and Cork (right) with faith in its facilities, but where alarm bells are ringing.

Clash of two cities as oil fever grips Ireland

From Tim Jones
Cork
A tale of two cities threatens to erupt into the Irish political arena as oil fever grows uncontrollably in the republic. The battle revolves around SEDCO 704, the oil rig which arrived off the Waterford coast last April. It costs £130 a second to operate and stands in 250ft of water far over the horizon.

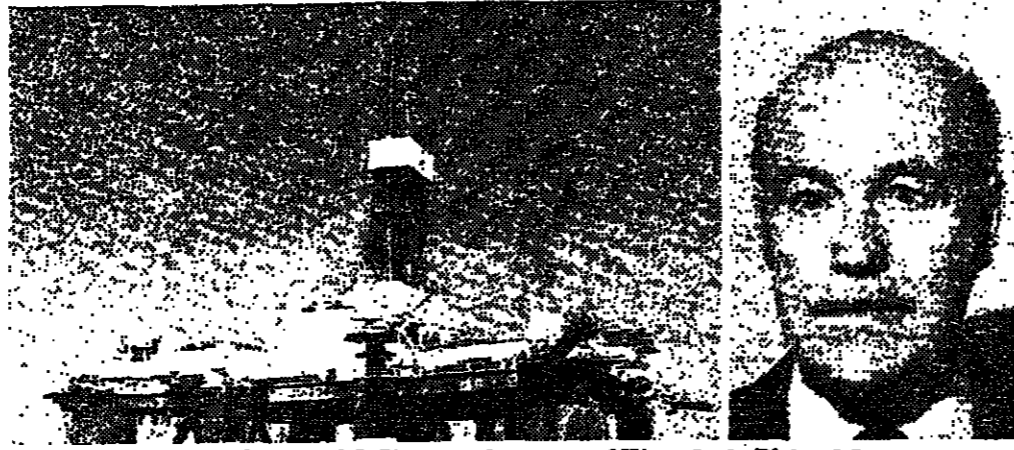
When local councils meet next month after the summer recess. For a "great Irish oil boom" has become a war between two cities determined to follow in the footsteps of Aberdeen. Although not a drop of oil will come ashore for at least four years, Cork and Waterford have begun mobilizing political and commercial interests to ensure that it comes to them.

president of the local chamber of commerce, said that it was considering appointing a professional manager to coordinate the city's claims. The mayor of Waterford, Mr Richard Jones, said: "The town has seen nothing but factory shut-downs for years and young unemployed people find it hard to believe there is a future for them."

the Foreign Minister, and Mr Hugh Coveney, a wealthy MP, who is influential in political and business circles. Mr Dennehy's talk of "political muscle" could be the harbinger of bitter battles in the Cabinet and on the floor of the Dail. For ever since Fine Gael, the ruling party, wrestled control of the Cork area it has faced mounting criticism over job losses.

found the black ladies of the night tend to follow. We must be on our guard to ensure that does not happen. "England seems to be dissipating its oil wealth on sustaining unemployment, whereas we would be fighting for it to be used to create new jobs and to improve services."

plagued by controversy and legislation forcing oil companies to take 35 per cent of products is being contested in the European Court. Waterford politicians, who find it difficult to counter the argument that it would be lunacy not to land oil at Whitegate say that the oil could be brought ashore on their coastline and then transported to the refinery.



The oil rig, SEDCO 704, and the mayor of Waterford, Richard Jones.

Letter from Ndjamena
Show of style despite menace of war

As countries go, Chad claims to fame that hold no joy. It vies, for instance, with Bhutan for the title of the world's poorest country. It challenges Eritrea, almost as the theatre for Africa's longest-running chronicled battle and war. Somehow it survives, and with style. "I am sorry, Sir," the waiter might say at a new restaurant. "The Beaujolais is finished, but there is Cotes du Rhone." There's ice cream, too, imported from France, and French cheese and fillet steak.

Libyan leader, Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. "If I had a gun, I would kill Gaddafi myself," says a 30-year-old accountant in a bar far from the side of the city where the foreigners usually stay. The taxi driver, with reverence for the language of colonialism, calls it the African quarter. The man has no gun and perhaps the bravado is that of a person whose desire for the glory of battle is balanced by relief at the remoteness of the contest.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal Engagement
Prince and Princess Michael of Kent attend Mayfield Horse Trials, Clifton Farm, Mayfield, Sussex.

New exhibitions

Vienna 1900: Vienna, Scotland and the European Avant Garde. National Museum of Antiquities and Scotland, Queen Street, Edinburgh: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until Sept 25).

Roads

London and South-east: M4: Only one lane Londonbound between junctions 4 and 5 (Langley). A40(M): Lanes closed each way between Marylebone and White City. A33: One carriageway shared at Chandlers Ford, Hampshire tomorrow.

Gardens open

TOMORROW. Aberdeenshire: Pitmedden Garden, Pitmedden: formal gardens, 4 parterres, herbaceous, produce for sale. 10-6. Cambridgeshire: Berry Close Studio, Great Gransden, Cambridge: through Great Gransden and Little Gransden on B1046; 3 acres, all year round garden; 10-6.

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will persist over Britain
6am to midnight
London, Central S, SW England, Central N England, Midlands, Channel Islands: S.W. wind; light rain; sun periods; wind NW, light; max 22C (72F).

Weather forecast

London, Central S, SW England, Central N England, Midlands, Channel Islands: S.W. wind; light rain; sun periods; wind NW, light; max 22C (72F).

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,207

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solutions.

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Anniversaries

Births: James Gillray, caricaturist, Chelsea, 1756; Sir George Grove, engineer and editor of Dictionary of Music and Musicians, London, 1856; Florence Nightingale, nurse, Florence, 1820; George Bernard Shaw, playwright, Dublin, 1876.

In the garden

Growth has been remarkably generous this summer, especially where gardeners have been able to water adequately. Runner beans have now reached the top of the supports and the growing shoot should be pinched out. Onions are ready for lifting now in most parts.

Lighting-up time

London 8.56 pm to 5.19 am
Aberdeen 8.56 pm to 5.19 am
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Victoria Line trains

No Victoria Line trains will run between Brixton and Victoria tomorrow because of engineering work at Brixton. A substitute bus service will link all the stations on this section. Journeys will take up to 25 minutes longer.

Channel 4 relay

The 50,000 viewers in and around Scarborough who receive Yorkshire Television ITV programmes from the local relay site on 'Oliver's Mount can now tune to Channel 4. This relay is used by most viewers in Scarborough and also Scally, Eastfield, Ayton, Wykeham, Cloughton, Burniston and Seamer.

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